Foundations of Genealogy.

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FOUNDATIONS

OF

GENEALOGY

WITH

Suggestions on the Art of Preparing

Records of Ancestry

BY

WILLIAM STOWELL MILLS, LL. B.

MONOGRAPH PUBLISHING COMPANY,
NEW YORK, 1899.

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TO

JOHN FISKE,

WHOSE WIDE READING, THOROUGH COMPREHENSION, CHARM OF STYLE, SCIENTIFIC METHOD, AND JUDICIAL SPIRIT PLACE HIM IN THE FIRST RANK OF HISTORIANS AND PHILOSOPHERS, I DEDICATE THIS BOOK, IN GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE INSPIRATION DERIVED FROM HIS WRITINGS.

"Only in a thoughtless temper would an intell gent man declare that it mattered nothing to him who were his ancestors, nor what his relationship might be to the rest of mankind, and to those coming after him."—HENRY KENDALL.

PREFACE.

THE two-fold purpose in offering this book is to present a study of genealogy as a science, and to render assistance in the tracing of lineages, and in the collecting and recording of material for family history. The difficulties met with by the author in his researches have led him to believe that a work of this kind would be acceptable. He has been conscious of his inability to give the subject the full measure of consideration it deserves, and to treat it with the masterly skill which its merits demand ; but he has been sure that the light in which he has considered it does not exaggerate its importance. The book is offered with the hope that it may be found useful.

Brooklyn, N. Y., March, 1899.
352 Clifton Place.

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CHAPTERS.

INTRODUCTION.

"There is a great deal more in genealogies than is generally believed at present."—THOMAS CARLYLE.

TO the best of the author's knowledge and belief, there is but one work in existence to which this book bears any resemblance, viz.: "How to Write the History of a Family," by W. P. W. Phillimore. That work is an excellent one, and fully serves the purpose for which it was intended. Little of it, however, is suited to our needs, as its directions are chiefly for the benefit of searchers in England. There are works on the preparation of family history, by other English authors, but they contain little more than forms for records. The recent work by Edward S. Holden, "A Primer of Heraldry for Americans," is a clear and concise statement of its subject, and is helpful to students of heraldry. It contains a section of two pages on "How to Trace a Pedigree," but offers few specific directions.

The preparation of a book on the principles of genealogy finds ample justification in the fact that

there is an increasing interest in the subject. Thinking persons are rapidly approaching the conclusion that it is entitled to a share of attention; that its deepest meaning is not comprehended in a few generations of individual lineage, nor in the desire to trace descent from "good families." Some knowledge of its broad significance belongs to the educational equipment of every American citizen. The prediction is not unwarranted that erelong chairs of History *and Genealogy* will be established in our colleges and universities for the study of the mutual relations of these sciences. Here is a rich field. The migrations of the American people and the building up of new communities; the character of the early emigrants to this country, as stamped upon their descendants of to-day; the application of heraldic devices—relics of the age of chivalry—to American architecture, are among the considerations bearing upon the principles of genealogy and the purpose of its study. The development of these and allied topics belongs to the college and university curriculum.

Although genealogy as a science has not been thoroughly treated in any single work, it has received attention from writers on special topics. The various periodicals devoted to genealogies

contain hints on the higher purposes of genealogical inquiry ; but there seems to have been little effort made to set forth the comparative importance of the foundations of the science, or to trace the relation of genealogy to the great themes that command general attention. There are a few books treating kindred subjects, or what may be called phases of genealogy. A work unquestionably surpassing all others in this direction, is " The Kinship of Men," by Henry Kendall. A valuable contribution, also, is " Hereditary Genius," by Francis Galton, who, as a writer on scientific subjects, well exemplifies his theme, being a first cousin of Charles Darwin, the naturalist. Another one of his books, " Natural Inheritance," and also those on heredity by Ribot and by Proctor, are in the realm of genealogy. The study of these and related topics is indispensable to a thorough comprehension of genealogy as a science.

Civilization in our country has now so far developed that its records contain a literature of American genealogy, and present a field for research so vast that a claim to a knowledge of it all would be presumptuous. Although this book considers the subject in all its important phases, it does not pretend to be exhaustive. It is an attempt to awaken

interest in the most important aspects by combining a discussion of the *rationale* of genealogy with suggestions for practical work.

For opportunities of examining many of the works mentioned in the chapter "The Sources of Information," the author is indebted to the courtesy of Mr. Charles D. Gillis, Assistant in the Lenox Branch of the New York Public Library. Although the author has aimed to include all the important works of reference, he does not presume that there are no omissions, nor that the book is without errors.

Notwithstanding the temptations to enlarge the book, the original purpose has been kept steadily in view—to make it suggestive and not voluminous. There may be some significance in the fact that it differs from every other book on the subject in having been written for Americans by an American.

An author of a first book of its kind should be content if he succeeds in prompting a stronger hand to do a more thorough work. Such success would be gratifying to the author of the first book on the *Foundations of Genealogy*.

CHAPTER I.

MOTIVES FOR GENEALOGICAL INQUIRY.

"I do not object to a wholesome pride of ancestry, though a little mythical, if it be accompanied with the feeling *noblesse oblige*, and do not result merely in a placid self-satisfaction with our own mediocrity, as if greatness, like righteousness, could be imputed."—JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.

USUALLY one's interest in genealogy first manifests itself in the desire to know who one's ancestors were, and what part they took in the great play of forces that has made our national life. This desire is natural and commendable, and can be gratified if one possesses the necessary patience for the search.

RECORD SHOULD NOT BE PARTIAL.

But one must, in the beginning, resolve to go wherever the progress of the work may direct, and to make a faithful record of all that is found. This is the only way to secure all the pleasures and advantages of the in

quiry. The pleasures are many and not a few of them arise from surprises that one meets in the course of the work. The advantages are proportioned to the completeness of the information obtainable. To select for record that which pleases the fancy, or indulges pride of distinction, and to ignore or to suppress what may seem commonplace in our progenitors is to be untrue to our ancestry and to ourselves. Such a method results in a view of one's origin that is distorted, and therefore misleading. The frailties and the virtues of our ancestors may or may not be nicely balanced in us. Be that as it may, the more we know of those qualities from which our inherited traits have been evolved, the more effectively they may be made to serve us as warnings or as examples.

The work of compiling the genealogy of a family, or of tracing the lineage of an individual serves a double use. It furnishes

future generations with records that might otherwise never come to light, thus helping to equip the historian of the future; and, as a compensation for the time and labor involved, it broadens the compiler's outlook over the field of history.

PATIENT LABOR REQUIRED.

The material required for such a record is widely scattered. Search for it must be made in histories, sermons, reports, official statistics, inscriptions, family genealogies, public and private documents, such as church and town records, wills, deeds, marriage licenses and certificates, Bible records, diaries, note-books, etc. It is often buried in a mass of literature so deep as well nigh to discourage all ambition to bring it to light; but when the fragments are gathered and connected to form a record, there emerges from apparent chaos a story of surprising interest.

GENUINE ZEAL.

The real lovers of genealogical research believe that every fading name or date that can be rescued from the musty archives of the past will contribute to the knowledge and satisfaction of coming generations. They are actuated by beneficent motives. They pursue their inquiries with a generous impulse, and nobly serve their fellow men. They are convinced that their work is important and are therefore not disheartened by the prejudice of those who, from want of knowledge of the subject, assume an attitude of indifference; neither are they discouraged by the positive ridicule to which they are sometimes subjected. They are, unfortunately too familiar with phrases that denote a fundamental misconception of the purpose of genealogical work, such as: "The mania for tracing ancestors" and "The genealogical craze," etc. Such questions as: "Will it

pay?" and "Are you sure your ancestors were prominent people?" they recognize as being based on equally erroneous ideas.

A WRONG ESTIMATE.

The application of the term "fad" to the taste for genealogical work is quite prevalent in these days. A little thought shows the inaptness of this. Faddism is not born of a love of lineage, but of a wrong estimate of its value; not of the desire to possess family records, but of that pride which exaggerates the social prestige conferred by descent from illustrious antecedents and by membership in hereditary societies. In some of these societies too much emphasis is placed upon social distinctions, and too little attention given to the patriotic purpose which prompted their organization.

WIDE APPLICATION OF GENEALOGY.

There is no doubt that the subject is wrongly treated at times. Work in some of its phases is over done, and emphasis is sometimes misplaced; nevertheless, no one in a thoughtful mood will deny that genealogy is a subject of importance to the student of mankind. When rightly applied, it helps to solve many problems in history. It has fundamental significance in the study of the origin, growth, and decline of nations.

Our hope of the future is founded on a knowledge of the past. It is well worth men's time to study their possibilities and tendencies in the light of past conditions: that is, ancestry, not alone of individuals, but of people collectively—of communities. The saying that an individual is a combination of the qualities of his ancestors may be trite, but we must not overlook its truth, and the fact that it is as true of nations as it is of individuals, gives to genealogy a larger

significance than has been hitherto implied. In a comprehensive sense genealogical progress is but another name for evolution.

Literary criticism has long since distinguished biography as being the most graphic, though not the only important element in history, and this because biography depends upon personality. Lineage goes far toward explaining personal characteristics, and is, therefore, the life of biography. The study of genealogy opens the way to a clear understanding of this important department of literature.

PATRIOTIC PRIDE.

The sentiment of patriotism should inspire one to the study of genealogy. The hereditary societies: Order of the Founders and Patriots of America; General Society of Mayflower Descendants; Sons (and Daughters) of the American Revolution; Colonial Dames of America; and a score of others,

promote love of country and also stimulate historical research. For these reasons they deserve the support of all Americans. Pride in being descended from the valiant pioneers who laid the foundations of our republic, or from those patriots who stood firm in its defense, is justifiable, and should inspire our lasting veneration and love for the past and its honorable achievements. Furthermore, the obligation rests upon us to maintain the high standards set by our ancestors and to pass on to posterity the noble heritage.

VAIN CONCEIT.

Notwithstanding all the incentives to a just estimate of genealogical research, there are many discouragements which the genealogist is continually called upon to face. Among these is a misconception that confronts him at every turn—that disclosed by the shallow-minded in their fondness for trading on the credit of their ancestors—a

delusion that renders its victims blind to true worth. They forget that

> "Honor and shame from no condition rise ;
> Act well your part, there all the honor lies."

INDIFFERENCE.

In active life the absorbing struggle for wealth creates in some people an indifference toward this subject that is sorely regretted in after years. Amid other occupations they are apt to neglect the work of recording genealogy till they have lost the facilities for it. They delude themselves with the idea that "Genealogical work is well enough if one has nothing else to do"; but when memory has begun to fade, and many of the sources of information have vanished forever, there comes the regret that the importance of family records was not understood earlier, and they wonder why they did not perform this duty to their descendants.

THE TOUCH OF ENVY.

Some people whose ancestry it may be difficult or impossible to trace, or who may think they have reasons for concealing their lineage, are inclined to underestimate the value of efforts made by those more successful in their search. They forget that these investigations bear fruit, not in names and dates—the material of the record—but in the motives which they inspire. Every descendant of a worthy family, whether his ancestry be prominent or obscure, should find in the story of his lineage, incentives to high resolve.

CHAPTER II.

History and Genealogy.

"Without genealogy, the study of history is comparatively lifeless."—JOHN FISKE.

KNOWLEDGE OF HISTORY ESSENTIAL.

TO be well equipped for tracing lineages, for selecting genealogical information that is of most importance, and making an attractive and reliable presentation of it, one should have a broad knowledge of history, and especially must one be familiar with the history of England and Holland three centuries ago, and of the settlement and growth of our own country. He who sets himself the task of tracing his ancestry, will, by degrees, accumulate a fund of invaluable historical information which he would not be likely to acquire in any other pursuit; nevertheless, there are special ad-

vantages in possessing beforehand an accurate knowledge of history. Historical reading trains one in the habit of reasoning from cause to effect. It enables one to estimate the relative importance of events. These qualifications save the searcher much time and labor.

HISTORY ANSWERS GENEALOGICAL QUESTIONS.

The foregoing is amply illustrated by actual conditions. An inquirer may wish to know, for example, where a certain ancestor was at a given time. The answer to this may be involved in another question, viz.: Were there reasons why he should have been at any one place rather than another? Answers to such questions depend upon a knowledge of the locality and time in which the ancestor sought is supposed to have lived. The historical threads connecting effects with their causes must be clearly discerned, or time and effort will be wasted. Questions arise in the

course of genealogical work which only history can answer. This truth is illustrated by many phases of the early emigration to this country. The following are among those that are not clearly understood in our day:

1. It is frequently observed that in the settlement of this country by our English ancestors there were many instances of members of the same family being separated from one another and arriving here at different dates, sometimes weeks, months or even years apart. This is explained by the fact that, before leaving England, emigrants were compelled to make statements on oath, of their conformity to the Church of England. Some, for reasons of conscience, were unable to do this, and the attempts to enforce the declaration caused many delays in embarkation. The result was oftentimes a separation of the members of a family, who, being compelled to take ship at different ports, arrived here at different times and places.

2. One may frequently hear expressions in ridicule of the tradition that two, three or more brothers came to America and settled in different parts of the country, it may be, each becoming the ancestor of a branch of the family. These circumstances are referred to by unthinking people as being fictitious—the product of fancy. The truth is that many of these traditions are statements of fact. One familiar with the history of England at this period would be reminded of the law of primogeniture—the right of the oldest son to inherit all the real estate—a law prevailing in all England, excepting the county of Kent. This preference for the firstborn son had the effect to discourage others of the family. It left them no inducement to remain in England that could offset the attractions in the New World. The effect of this law upon individual prospects may have been in but few instances the *sole* cause of emigration; yet it undoubtedly had an influence in de-

termining many to venture the change of home. They actually did leave in great numbers, coming frequently in family groups, related in varying degrees, in many instances settling in the same locality and often in adjacent towns. Occasionally brothers were widely separated; but the disposition of allied families was to associate. This proclivity, exhibited by the early settlers, if carefully observed by the genealogist, will be a guide, and prevent much futile labor. The loss of time and labor, however, is not the greatest of the evils that result from a lack of historical knowledge. The searcher who is not fortified with a knowledge of history, being unable to select the needed material, becomes confused with what appears to him a jumble of irrelevant fragments, and, in discouragement, often abandons the pursuit; whereas, one whose knowledge qualifies him for reasoning from effects to their causes, will make judicious

selection of material, and will also know where not to look for it.

HISTORICAL OUTLINE.

To show the intimate relation between history and genealogy, reference may be made to a few familiar facts connected with the settlement of our country. The origin of the New England colonies, and of Maryland was due to differences of religious conviction in England. The chief motives for the settlement of New York and Virginia grew out of business enterprise, thirst for gold, and the hope of finding a northwest passage, or short route to the East Indies. Neither gold nor the short route to India was found where it was thought to be, but the energy spent in the elusive search was rewarded by discoveries which more than compensated for disappointments.

If the colonies above named be separated into two groups—those within what is now

New England, and those outside of that territory—and Delaware be added to the latter group, there will be included the eight colonies of the original thirteen, which had existence either as trading posts or as actual settlements prior to the year 1640. To the student of history this date is an important one. It marks the culmination of the issue between Charles I. and the Puritans in England, when the long Parliament met, and emigration to New England ceased after more than twenty-five thousand Puritans had left Old England for the New. This great migration to New England—then somtimes called North Virginia—occurring between 1620 and 1640, inclusive, is a subject of absorbing interest when considered as a sequel to the political and ecclesiastical conditions prevailing in England at the beginning of the seventeenth century. This is also true of the settlement of Maryland. The length of time these several colonies had

been in existence prior to the year 1640 was as follows:

In New England.

Massachusetts,	Twenty Years.
New Hampshire,	Seventeen Years.
Connecticut,	Seven Years.
Rhode Island,	Four Years.

Outside of New England.

Virginia,	Thirty-three Years.
New York,	Twenty-six Years.
Maryland,	Seven Years.
Delaware,	Two Years.

At this time, 1640, there were in these eight colonies not far from forty thousand pioneers who had come to face the dangers of a new world. The story of their struggles in developing these embryo states is a record of heroism that interests all students of history and is of special importance to the genealogist.

THE FIRST GENERATION IN AMERICA.

If the length of a generation be reckoned as averaging about one-third of a century, the present generation is the ninth, counting from the year 1607, the date of the settlement of Virginia, the first permanent English colony in America. One born between the years 1874 and 1907 may, therefore, reckon at least eight generations of ancestors since the settlement at Jamestown. Many individuals can trace ten, some eleven, and a few as many as twelve, generations of ancestors since that date. An inquirer may be pardoned for being curious to know how many of his five hundred ancestors who have lived since 1607 were born in America.

The first of these generations ended in 1640. It is no exaggeration to say that of the seventy millions of people now scattered over our vast domain, occupying almost

every inhabitable square mile, one fifth of them are descendants of the forty thousand who comprised this first generation. To be able to trace a lineage to an ancestor among these pioneers in any of the colonies, inspires a just pride, and the wish to know how many of one's two hundred and fifty ancestors living at that time were in this first generation of Americans is only natural.

OUR EMIGRANT ANCESTORS.

The emigrants to the New World consisted mostly of heads of families, with their wives and children. The burden of affairs, borne at first by the parents, was assumed by the children in the next generation, under the influence in greater or less degree, of those who began the work. Supervision was carried forward in the third generation by the active men of the second, so that it may fairly be assumed that the influence of those

who came to these shores before 1640 was felt during the first three generations, or well into the eighteenth century.

A study of these facts shows how intense was the feeling of responsibility in these emigrant ancestors and opens the way to interesting and profitable investigation. These men and women, the founders of our country, were what their ancestry made it possible for them to be, viz.: the choicest of the untitled in England and Holland.

When we consider that the life, physical, mental and moral, of an individual, a family or a people, is not an accident, but is in truth an effect, the cause of which must be sought in ancestral stock or race, we can perceive that genealogy is a potent factor in history, and can comprehend how it is that genealogy and history are inseparable, and are alike significant to the thorough student.

THE KINSHIP OF THE EARLY SETTLERS.

If we would read the deepest meaning in the history of our country, we must appreciate in some degree how closely related are the people of the Old and of the New Worlds. We are apt to ignore or to forget this kinship, until it asserts itself in some crisis in human affairs. The course of the student is clearly pointed out by John Fiske, that prince of historians, when he says: "It is, moreover, only when we habitually bear in mind the threads of individual relationship that connect one country with another that we get a really firm and concrete grasp of history."*

A study of the character and experiences of these early settlers will reveal their relationship. Long before they left their European homes trade was established between England and Holland, which led to intimate associations between the people of the two

*Old Virginia and Her Neighbours, Vol, II., p. 26.

countries. The choice of Holland as a destination by the Pilgrims who fled from England was not accidental. There is strong evidence that many of the first settlers of New England and of Virginia were from the same families in the mother country. The history of their opinions and customs shows that however widely circumstances may have separated them geographically, they were united in purpose. This kinship was the foundation of that bond which held the colonies together in the Revolution, and it was their common origin with the English people that prompted those expressions of reluctance in opposing the oppressor. When political differences culminated in our Civil War, this bond—the common ancestry of the American people—was not without its influence in the restoration of the Union. The disagreement was temporary. It had no vital force. This kinship will continue to be a bond of union. North, south, east

and west are only directions; they stand for no lines of separation.

LANDMARKS TO THE GENEALOGIST.

Thus history and genealogy are mutually helpful, and it will bear repeating that many problems to be met may be solved by knowledge acquired from wide reading. The following events are cited to illustrate the need of preparation for the work of the genealogist. They are only a few among many, yet they are sufficient to show how indispensable this kind of knowledge is to the genealogist who would do expeditious and effective work.

1. In 1635 a part of the congregation from Dorchester, led by their pastor, the Rev. Warham, migrated to the Connecticut River and built new homes at Windsor. Some from Watertown settled at Wethersfield at about the same time.

2. In 1636 Rev. Thomas Hooker conducted

a band of followers from Newton and founded Hartford. Here, three years later, these three towns, in convention, framed the first written constitution in this country and sowed the first seeds of democratic government in America.

3. In this same year, 1639, the Rev. John Lothrop went with part of his church from Scituate and founded Barnstable.

4. In 1644, Rev. John Jones, at the head of a part of his church, at Concord, settled at Fairfield, Connecticut.

5. In 1686, about thirty families from Roxbury went to what is now Woodstock, Connecticut, and founded New Roxbury. From this settlement and from towns in eastern Massachusetts during the next century came a great part of the people of Windham County, Connecticut. The towns in New London County, on the south, were peopled principally from the older towns on

the Sound, New London, Stonington and others, with a strong reënforcement from Plymouth. The entrance into Delaware of a strong English element from Virginia, and the addition to the population of the Carolinas, from the same mother colony, are among incidents of historic interest to be met with outside of New England.

THE SCOTCH FROM IRELAND.

There was a series of emigrations in the 18th century, which deserves mention here as exerting a strong influence upon the character of the American people. In 1611 some of the liberty-lovers of Scotland left their native soil, partly to escape the persecutions of the Church of England, and partly on inducements of James I., and settled in Ulster County, Ireland, where they founded Londonderry, which soon became famous as a home for Scotch Presbyterians. A century later a company of more than three hundred

of the descendants of those refugees applied for permission to settle in America, and encouraged by the Governor of New England they came to our shores, some of them settling on Casco Bay, a few at Andover and Worcester, but most of them going to New Hampshire, where they founded a second Londonderry. After the landing of this first boatload at Boston, Aug. 4, 1718, these Scotch-Irish, as they were called, came to this country in great numbers, from time to time, for more than sixty years—till the Toleration Act for Ireland was passed in 1782. A half dozen boatloads of them came to Philadelphia in 1727, and by the time of the Revolution these hardy pioneers had so increased in numbers as to constitute a considerable proportion of the population of Pennsylvania. From here they migrated along the mountain ranges to the southwestward, swelling the population of West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and the Carolinas. Wherever

they settled they became the progenitors of some of the most stable and trustworthy of American citizens, and their descendants are now to be found in every State in the Union.

THE HUGUENOTS.

Soon after the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes,—Oct., 1685,—the French Protestants left France in great numbers, fleeing to Holland, England, and to this country, settling in South Carolina and New York, principally, although they went to New England, a few families settling at Boston and Oxford, Mass., and in Rhode Island and Connecticut. As early as 1623, however, they came to New Amsterdam, together with the Walloons, and, by the year 1670, the Huguenots numbered a fourth of the population of the New York colony. Their descendants are a strong factor in American civilization and are second to none in vigor of public spirit.

NATIONALITIES.

In respect to the countries from which their ancestors emigrated, the American colonists, at the time of the adoption of the Constitution—when the Government of the United States was created—were of *four* general classes:

1. ENGLISH.—Cavaliers in Virginia, Puritans in New England, Quakers in New England and Pennsylvania, Roman Catholics in Maryland.

2. DUTCH—In New York.

3. SCOTCH.—From north Ireland; most numerous in Pennsylvania and New Hampshire.

4.—FRENCH.—The Huguenots in New York and South Carolina, and the Walloons—of French extraction—in New York and vicinity.

SUBJECT FOR A BOOK.

These migrations of early settlers were important because they involved the founding of towns. These restless changes marked local epochs, and without a knowledge of such landmarks an inquirer would work at great disadvantage. This subject —the origin of towns—has not hitherto received the attention it deserves. It is worthy of the talents of the historian. A book should be written on the distribution of the American people. Indeed, when it is considered that cities have grown from towns, it would appear that there is ample material for several volumes, restricted to mere outlines of the subject. It is susceptible of almost unlimited expansion. The information contained in such a treatise would be of inestimable value to the genealogist, and of no little interest to other students of history.

GENEALOGY AND RACE PROGRESS.

Through the study of history we learn something of town organization and government; we become acquainted with methods of making and keeping public records in the early days, and gain some ideas of their comparative reliability as determined by the strictness of the laws prescribing their preparation and safe keeping. We learn how records were made and kept in England, in the parish registers, in government offices, in the College of Arms, etc. History tells us who the founders of our Republic were; why and how they left their old homes for new and untried ones; and we shall prepare ourselves for interesting and profitable research if we avail ourselves of its treasures. But all this is, in point of time, very near to us; it is but the history of yesterday. To appreciate more fully the close alliance of genealogy and history we must look far be-

yond the beginnings of American institutions. These were transplanted here. In the study of their origin we must trace their lineage back to the wilds of central Europe and even beyond that stage of progress; but how far the dim light of history does not make plain. Questions in genealogy arose as soon as people began to live in communities. Individuals were united in families, and families were associated in clans. A form of government, among the earliest that we know, had its foundation in genealogy. The ancient *tun*, originating with the Saxons, from which we derive our *town*, was primarily composed of families descended from a common ancestor. They were united by common consent, and ditched, hedged, or walled themselves in from the outer world for protection. From their form of government came the English idea of the town, which our ancestors brought with them. Counties, states and nations have

grown out of the aggregation of towns, each local government relinquishing certain prerogatives to be exercised by a central authority. There is scarcely a page of history that does not in some degree involve considerations in genealogy. In the study of race progress these two sciences serve in mutual dependence. History is but the revelation of genealogy, and genealogy, as a factor in the social progress of mankind, has a history which deserves serious and profound study.

*GENEALOGY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

In all this we have limited the application of history. The operation of the principles of genealogy is not restricted to man. The same law prevails in the development of the

* For an exposition of what is here merely suggested, the reader is referred to that collection of delightful papers, "Excursions of an Evolutionist," which, with his other scientific works, long since proved Mr. Fiske to be America's Interpreter and Historian of the Achievements of Science.

entire animal and plant worlds. In the nurture of her offspring Mother Nature has a history. One has only to study the evidences of those geologic changes that have brought the face of the globe to its present aspect, to comprehend that ancestor, cousin, descent and inheritance are terms as full of meaning in the vocabulary of the naturalist as when used by the genealogist. The words species, genera, order and family applied to the world of nature have foundation in likeness and difference, and these are the results of processes in generation—they are hereditary. "Natural Selection" is a name for the operation of these same processes in specific directions. Natural history was indeed lifeless before the incomparable genius of Charles Darwin gave it birth. All life—psychic and material—is seen to be developed in accordance with a universal principle, of which the progress of man affords the most magnificent illustration. Among

the revolutionizing deductions to which Darwin's investigations lead, it is not the least important one that the study of the evolution of man is the study of his genealogy.

CHAPTER III.

A SURVEY OF THE FIELD.

"We sometimes see a change of expression in our companion and say his father or his mother comes to the windows of his eyes, and sometimes a remote relative. In different hours a man represents each of several of his ancestors, as if there were seven or eight of us rolled up in each man's skin, —seven or eight ancestors, at least; and they constitute the variety of notes for that new piece of music which his life is."

—RALPH WALDO EMERSON.

NO INTELLIGENT consideration of the principles of genealogy is possible without clear ideas of the meaning of the terms used in that science. As technical words are not numerous, we may take time to consider them.

DEFINITIONS.

Until within the last fifty years very little attention has been paid to genealogy beyond what seemed necessary for the establishing of property rights. The lineages of royal families and of many Biblical characters

were traced and recorded, but the ancestry of plain, untitled people of modern times, who made no claim to descent from heroes, was not considered worth knowing. The earliest application of the principles of genealogy was made by the law and we are indebted to that science for the meaning of some of the terms in use. Modern genealogists in the use of these terms have departed somewhat from their original signification, and, therefore, to gain a clear idea of them, it is necessary to distinguish between their strict or legal sense and the popularly accepted meaning.

GENEALOGY AND LAW.

In English and American legislation statutes of descent and distribution have been enacted to provide for the adjustment of the property rights of the heirs of persons who die intestate. The sole object of the law, when applying the principles of genealogy,

is to determine rights to property. It does not concern itself with lineages nor with the descent of individuals, excepting to ascertain them incidentally to the main purpose. In the days when property rights were vested solely in men; when women had little or no share in the distribution of wealth, the law, in establishing those rights, recognized the male issue and interested itself therefore in tracing only the male line of descent. By the evolution of public opinion, the law has been gradually modified until to-day, the rights of women in respect to property—particularly in this country—are almost identical with those of men. *A relic of the ancient idea, however, still lingers

*It is not within the purpose of this book to trace the history of mankind in respect to systems of relationship, further than to say that the investigations of Bachofen, McLennan, and others, critically examined and supplemented by Herbert Spencer, have clearly proved that the system of kinship through the father is comparatively modern. A study of ancient peoples, including the aboriginies of America, has shown that relationship was by them generally reckoned through the mother only. The change was doubtless gradual, as society, through its laws, drew more and more closely its safeguards about the marriage relation.

in the minds of many in the impression that the male line of descent is the all important one. This is doubtless due in part to the fact that in this line the family name is transmitted. This fact is significant; but it confers a distinction that is purely conventional —not in any sense founded upon nature. The laws by which individual traits are transmitted do not differ in any way in the male line from those governing other lines. The genealogist should not make the mistake of exaggerating the importance of any one line of descent above others. He is interested in a comprehensive study of the subject — a study which treats genealogy as a science.

LINES OF DESCENT.

A line of descent is a succession of generations—few or many—from one individual to another. These individuals may or may not be of the same sex, or of the same family name.

ASCENDANT AND DESCENDANT.

The correlative terms, ascendant and descendant, are applied to the individuals at the opposite ends of a line of descent, or at the ends of any part of such line. The line is traced back, or upward, from the descendant to the ascendant, and down *vice versa*. A line of descent of a descendant is one of his lineages.

ANCESTOR.

The word ancestor is applied to either sex. An ascendant, whether male or female, is an ancestor of a descendant. The word ancestor has a legal sense which differs from its ordinary meaning. This is a very important distinction. A failure to recognize it has led to misconceptions, against which the genealogist should be well fortified.

ANCESTOR AND ANCESTOR.

In accordance with the statutes of descent and distribution, the law defines an ancestor as one from whom an heir inherits property, or one who is prior to another in the right to inherit property. In this legal sense ancestor is correlative of heir. Such ancestor may or may not be in the same line of descent with the heir. That is, such ancestor may or may not be the progenitor or the descendant of the heir. The ancestor in the legal sense may be an uncle or an aunt, a brother or a sister, a parent or even a child of the heir; that is, *any* person from whom an heir actually inherits, or one who has the prior right over another to inherit property, is an ancestor. It should be observed that it is *property* which descends or ascends from ancestor to heir. When the descent of property is from one line of descent (of persons) to a different line, it is *collateral.*

When the descent of property is from ancestor to heir in the same line of descent (of persons), it is *lineal*, and the heir, if in the later generation, is a descendant of the ancestor; but if in the earlier generation, he is an ancestor, ascendant, or progenitor of his ancestor. To illustrate: A son inheriting property from his father is, by the law of the descent of property, the heir of his ancestor; and by the law of the descent of persons, he is the descendant of his ancestor. Here the term ancestor is used in its different senses. To reverse the illustration: A father inheriting property from his son is the heir of his ancestor, after the law of the descent of property; but by the law of the descent of persons, he is ancestor of his descendant, and the latter is therefore an ancestor of his ancestor, again using the term in its different senses.

PROPERTY AND PERSONS.

This apparent confusion of terms shows the two meanings of the word ancestor, and emphasizes a distinction that has not generally been kept in mind, viz.: that property may descend either lineally or collaterally; but persons descend only lineally. Relationship of persons may be collateral, or oblique; but not their descent. Property may descend indirectly; but descent of persons is always direct. There is a popular use of the term direct descent, meaning descent through the male line as distinguished from the other lines, called indirect. The term lineal is sometimes applied to descent through the male line as distinguished from the other lines called collateral: but there is no valid reason for such distinctions. Without doubt, the idea that persons may descend indirectly and collaterally had its origin in a confusion of the descent of

persons with that of property. The prevailing misconceptions on this point make this explanation seem necessary. In constitutions, by-laws, and statements of qualifications for membership, adopted by some of the hereditary societies, there are to be found such phrases as "lineal descendant" and "lineally descended." They seem to imply that a person may be descended in some other way than lineally. As used by these societies, such phrases should be interpreted as forms of emphasis rather than genealogical errors. The genealogist, it is needless to say, has to do with descent of persons only. He is interested in the inheritance of personal characteristics which such descent implies. He employs the word ancestor in its ordinary sense, as a correlative of descendant and synonymous with ascendant.

LINEAGE AND GENEALOGY.

Although there is authority for the use of the terms lineage and genealogy as synonyms, distinction should be made between them. A lineage is a line of descent, as between a descendant and an ascendant. Considered collectively, all the lines of descent of an individual from all his ancestors —that is, all his lineages—constitute his complete genealogy. In this collective sense, lineage is synonymous with genealogy. These lines diverge as traced backward or upward from the descendant. All the lines of descent from an ascendant down to all his descendants constitute a genealogy, so-called, of that branch of a family of which the said ascendant is a progenitor. These lines diverge as traced downward from the ascendant. To state briefly the distinction between these terms: a genealogy is made up of lineages; a lineage is an element of a genealogy.

GENEALOGY INCOMPLETE.

It is obvious that no recorded genealogy, either of an individual or of a family can be complete. It would be impossible to trace all the lineages of any individual to all his ancestors. Some of the two thousand or more possible ancestors of an individual in ten generations are quite out of reach of the genealogist. In family genealogies as they are usually compiled no attempt is made to record more than one lineage of an individual; that one being the lineage leading back to the common ascendant of the family. When it is considered how numerous the descendants of one ascendant may be, the difficulty of including them all is apparent. Assuming a conservative average to a family, of three children, surviving to leave issue in each generation, there would be, in nine generations, nearly thirty thousand descendants of one ascendant.

LINEAGE AND PEDIGREE.

These words refer to a line of descent, with the distinction that pedigree is applied to man, and also to the lower animals. While lineage is used to refer only to the human family. Elegance of speech would suggest the application of pedigree to the lower animals only.

Ancestors, progenitors, forebears (or forbears) ascendants, forefathers, and fore-elders are synonymous terms. Correlatives of these are the terms descendants, issue, offspring, and progeny. The last named is also applied to the lower animals. Descendants considered collectively are posterity.

THE LAW OF RELATIONSHIP.

For the rules governing this subject we are indebted again to the law. These rules are followed by the English and American courts in applying the statutes of descent and distribution. Besides the importance

of relationship as affecting rights to property, there are other considerations that make it worth careful study. Within the realm of reliable record the various lines of descent, extending backward and increasing in number, connecting and interlacing with one another as they recede, make the kinship of people an exceedingly interesting subject to the student of genealogy. The tracing of one's lineage to a common ancestry with the illustrious is by no means unprofitable. It is both gratifying and inspiring to be associated with the good and the great by ties of kinship, however remote. On comparison of lineages, relationship is often found to exist between individuals who were unaware of any such bond. These discoveries sometimes point to the origin of characteristics that are known to be possessed in common. For a full, scientific, and able discussion of the power of heredity, and the significance of kinship, the reader is referred to the in-

vestigations of Francis Galton, as recorded in his works: "Hereditary Genius," "Natural Inheritance," and "English Men of Science, Their Nature and Nurture." The purpose of his researches was, as stated by Mr. Galton, "To show that a man's natural abilities are derived by inheritance, under exactly the same limitations as are the form and physical features of the whole organic world." This is true not only for the first two or three generations but also for those following, differing only in degree; and kinship from the scientific point of view, therefore, is worth studying.

Of the various systems of recording relationship some are needlessly intricate. The simplest is best if it is complete. For general use, parallel columns showing the descent of two individuals from common ancestors are sufficient.

COUSINSHIP ILLUSTRATED.

To illustrate a comparison of lineages, the following tabular statement is presented, showing the kinship of Leura A. Fiske and the naturalist and author, Henry D. Thoreau, the "Robinson Crusoe of Walden Pond."

RICHARD KETTELL *m* ESTHER WARD, 1636.

Generations.	Line of Descent			Kinship.	Line of Descent.			Degrees of Consanguinity.
1.	Hannah Frothingham,	*m*	Joseph,	B. and S.	Hannah,	*m*	John Call,	2
2.	Abigail Rand,	*m*	William,	1 C.	John,	*m*	Martha Lowden,	4
3.	Ruth Stimson,	*m*	William,	2 C.	Samuel,	*m*	Abigail Sprague,	6
4.	John Thoreau,	*m*	Rebecca,	3 C.	James,	*m*	Hannah Masters,	8
5.	Cynthia Dunbar,	*m*	John,	4 C.	Abigail,	*m*	Joel Bigelow,	10
6.			Henry D,	5 C.	Martha,	*m*	Eber Fiske,	12
7.				1 R.	Leura A.,			14

As the names of both parents are given, the surnames of the children in the line of descent are easily determined.

Here the exact relationship is shown, together with the number of the generation of the individuals from the common ancestors—Richard Kettell and Esther (Ward) Kettell, also their degree of consanguinity. They are shown to have been fifth cousins, once removed, and in the thirteenth degree of consanguinity; their lines of descent having begun with the children of Richard Kettell: Joseph and Hannah, respectively.

It is interesting to note the difference between the dates of birth of Thoreau and of his fifth cousin, Martha Bigelow. The latter was born in 1781; but Thoreau, in the same generation from their common ancestors, was born in 1817, thirty-six years later. Reckoning from the date 1636, the average length of a generation in the Thoreau lineage was 30 years, and in the lineage of Martha Bige-

low, 24 years. Early marriages of the oldest children in the line of descent in all the generations produce the shortest average. Conditions the opposite of these in all the generations produce the longest average. Should these extremes of conditions occur on opposite sides in a comparison, there would be the maximum difference in the dates of birth. They are usually found, however, to offset each other, and, therefore, tend to equalize averages, although differences equal to that in the illustration are not uncommon.

These studies of the relationships of men are in accord with the most scientific methods. Comparing objects by means of association is the most fruitful of all ways of study. A man's strength as a social or a political unit is determined by his associations, and it should not be thought unprofitable to group men by their family connections. They may study, with advantage, those associations into which they are born.

COUSIN TO ONE'S SELF.

Comparisons of this kind sometimes disclose interesting facts in relationship. The following table illustrates the separation of two lines from each other, and their union again eleven generations—three hundred years—later. From Robert Fiske the lines began their separate courses with his sons, William and Thomas.

ROBERT FISKE *m* SYBIL GOLD (or Gould), 1550.

Generations.		Line of Descent.		Kinship.	Line of Descent.			Degrees of Consanguinity.
1.	Ann Anstey,	*m*	William,	B.	Thomas,	*m*	Margery ——,	2
2.	Anthony Fisher,	*m*	Mary,	1 C.	Phineas,	*m*	Sarah ——,	4
3.	Mary ——,	*m*	Anthony,	2 C.	John,	*m*	Remember ——,	6
4.	Daniel Morse,	*m*	Lydia,	3 C.	John,	*m*	Hannah Baldwin,	8
5.	Elizabeth Barber,	*m*	Daniel,	4 C.	Benjamin.	*m*	Abigail Bowen,	10
6.	Ezra Clark,	*m*	Margaret,	5 C.	Benjamin,	*m*	Susannah Briggs,	12
7.	Sarah Shuttleworth,	*m*	Edward,	6 C.	Nathaniel,	*m*	Lois Rowley,	14
8.	Uriah Morse,	*m*	Sarah,	7 C.	Eber,	*m*	Martha Bigelow,	16
9.	Samuel Mills,	*m*	Sally,	8 C.	Leura A.,	*m*	William Mills,	18
10.	Leura A. Fiske,	*m*	William, daughter.	1 R.	daughter,			

These lines separating about the middle of the sixteenth century, were reunited about the middle of the nineteenth century. William Mills and Leura A. Fiske, in the tenth and ninth generations, respectively, from Robert Fiske, were eighth cousins, once removed and were in the nineteenth degree of consanguinity. Their daughter represented the reunion of the two lines of descent. She was, in one line, ten generations from Robert Fiske, and in the other line, eleven generations from the same ascendant. To her mother, she was eighth cousin twice removed, and to her father ninth cousin, and in addition, was, in a sense, her own ninth cousin once removed. What this comparison of lineages illustrates could be shown to be true of thousands of individuals if their lineages were traced and compared. Truly there are some "curious fruits" to be plucked from "the dry branches of genealogical trees."

These tables illustrate the mode of reckoning relationship which is in most general use. Although a familiarity with this method is presumed to be one of the attainments of the genealogist, a brief account of its origin may not be valueless here.

SOURCES OF LAW.

The three great fountains from which modern law is derived are: The Civil or Roman law; Canon or Ecclesiastical law; and Common law; or that which has grown from custom and precedent, that is, without having been prescribed by statute, or written authority. Mention of these sources of law is made here because from them have been derived the methods of reckoning degrees of consanguinity.

KINDS OF RELATIONSHIP.

1. Consanguinity—kindred by birth or blood. 2. Affinity—kindred by marriage—created by law. There are two kinds of

consanguinity: 1. Lineal or direct. 2. Collateral, indirect, oblique or transverse.

Two individuals are *lineally* related when they are in the same line of descent, that is, when from one to the other there is either a single generation, or a line of successive generations, of either sex, of one or more than one family name; in other words, when they are to each other as ascendant and descendant. Two individuals are *collaterally* related when they are in different lines of descent that meet in a common ancestor, near or remote.

MODES OF COMPUTING CONSANGUINITY.

All consanguinity is computed by degrees, each generation being reckoned as a degree. The number of one's generation from an ancester is one's degree of consanguinity with the ancestor.

There are two modes of computing collatral consanguinity. 1. The method employed

by the common law and canon law. By this mode, the reckoning begins with the common ancestor. When two individuals are in the same generation (degree) from the common ancestor, their degree of kindred is the same as that which either one of them sustains to the common ancestor. As: Children of a common parent are in the first degree of consanguinity, either one of them being one degree from the common ancestor. When two individuals are not in the same generation (degree) from the common ancestor, their degree of kindred is the same as that which the one farther from the common ancestor sustains to the ancestor. As: An uncle and his nephew are in the second degree of consanguinity, the nephew being two degrees from the common ancestor.

It will be observed that in this mode of reckoning there is an unavoidable inaccuracy. In the last example, the uncle and his nephew are reckoned as in the second de-

gree. This would also be true of the nephew and his cousin (a child of the uncle) as each is in the second degree from the common ancestor. To avoid this difficulty, the English and American courts have adopted the mode followed by the Civil law.

2. By this method the reckoning begins, not with the common ancestor, but with one of the individuals, and the degrees are counted back, or upwards, to the common ancestor, and then down on the other line to the other individual. The sum of the degrees on the two lines is the degree of consanguinity of the individuals. A comparison by means of the same examples as were used in the first method will make the distinction clear. Children of the same parent are in the second degree of kindred; an uncle and his nephew are in the third degree; and the nephew and his cousin are in the fourth degree. Whether the lines of descent be long or short, on either side or both

sides, the degree of kindred is accurately obtained by adding the degrees of the individuals from the common ancestor.

NAMES OF DEGREES OF CONSANGUINITY.

1. *As applied to individuals in the same generation (degree) from the common ancestor.*

Individuals one generation from the ancestor are in the second degree of kindred and are brothers and sisters. Children of the same *father* and *mother* are brothers and sisters german. Individuals two generations from the ancestor are in the fourth degree of kindred and are cousins, first cousins, or cousins german if they have both grandparents in common. Individuals three generations from the ancestor are in the sixth degree of kindred and are second cousins. Third cousins are four generations from the ancestor and are in the eighth degree of kindred. Fourth cousins are one

generation farther from the ancestor and are two degrees farther apart in kindred, etc., etc. In every instance, the degree of consanguinity is twice the number of the generation from the common ancestor and two more than double the number of the cousinship. For example: Sixth cousins are in the fourteenth degree of consanguinity, and in the seventh generation from the common ancestor; seventh cousins are in the sixteenth degree of consanguinity and in the eighth generation from the common ancestor, etc., etc.

2. *As applied to individuals not in the same generation (degree) from the common ancestor.*

Individuals one and two generations, respectively, from the ancestor are in the third degree of kindred, and are uncle or aunt, and nephew or niece. If in one and three generations from the ancestor, they are

in the fourth degree of kindred and are great uncle or aunt, and grand nephew or niece. If in two and three generations from the ancestor, they are in the fifth degree of kindred and are first cousins once removed, sometimes designated "first and second cousins." Individuals three and four generations, respectively, from the ancestor, are in the seventh degree of kindred and are second cousins once removed, or "second and third cousins." If in three and five generations from the ancestor, they are in the eighth degree of kindred, and are second cousins twice removed, etc., etc. Relationship is as many times *removed* as the difference between the degrees of the individuals from the common ancestor. Estimate the cousinship of the individual nearer to the common ancestor and add the removes. For example: If A and B were four and seven generations respectively, from their common ancestor, their relation-

ship would be reckoned by counting A's cousinship to one in the fourth degree of B's line, and adding the three removes. A and B would be third cousins, three times removed.

3. *As applied to persons lineally related.*

Our system of designating these relationships is cumbersome. After the second generation either backward or downward from the individual, the word *great* must be repeated at each step. After a few generations this becomes unwieldy. The Romans had names for these steps, requiring but one word for each generation. This would be very convenient for English speaking people; but no plan for securing it has seemed worthy of general adoption. The most ingenious method yet proposed was suggested by the genealogist, Mr. Whitmore, in a paper read before the New England Historic Genealog-

ical Society, in 1874, entitled: "A new System of Denoting Relationships." He adopted the terms "*ayle*," "*besayle*," "*tresayle*," designating grandfather, great-grandfather and great-great-grandfather respectively, as found in Blackstone's Commentaries. By extending these terms to "*quatrayle*," "*quintayle*," "*sesayle*," "*septayle*," "*octayle*" etc., he urged that we might have a single word for each generation.

He was fortunate enough to find in old Scotch-English the term "*oye*" denoting son, to this he would apply the same prefixes, as "*besoye*," "*tresoye*," etc., to express the generations down the line. He contended that the same terms might be safely used for both sexes, inasmuch as the Christian name would prevent confusion in that particular. The plan is highly creditable to the author's ingenuity and is worthy of consideration.

It should be said here that in the early records, the terms: father-in-law, mother-in-

law etc., were sometimes used to express what we mean by step-father, step-mother, etc., that is, *step* was written instead of the term "in-law." It will prevent confusion if this is kept in mind.

THE CLOSEST OF RELATIONSHIPS.

Irrespective of rights to property and the purpose of the law in computing consanguinity, it will be observed that the closest of all relationships is that of brothers and sisters german. Being children of the same parents, they inherit the same blood. This is not true of any other kindred.

THE FIRST EXPERIENCE.

Before beginning a search in genealogy, it is well to have a knowledge of some of the difficulties which every worker must meet sooner or later. The most satisfactory help to experience is the work of writing one's own family history. The interest a com-

piler naturally takes in his own family will strengthen him for difficulties that might prove too great for him without that incentive. There is a peculiar fascination in the work and one should not forego the pleasure it affords. There will, of necessity, be information not obtainable without the aid of the specialist. The genealogist must be consulted at times, either for material or for advice; but when facilities are accessible for tracing one's own ancestry, the work should not be delegated to another. It is the very best preparation for the beginner. From one's own lineage to the lineages of one's intimate friends is a good second step in the progress.

A FEW DIFFICULTIES.

The following suggestions and explanations point to some of the difficulties which meet the searcher at the very outset. Although inquirers may be held responsible

for much of the carelessness that gives annoyance, the genealogist is often none the less at fault. He should see to it that his work is not impaired by his own want of care in small things.

People often forget that their requests for help should be unmistakable; that clearness of statement is essential, and that questions cannot be too plain, or too definite.

PENMANSHIP.

Even in so small a consideration as handwriting, there is considerable to be said by way of caution against carelessness. The genealogist is often baffled in his effort to decipher words which a little care on the part of a writer would have made perfectly clear. There is a disposition in some people to affect oddity of letter forms and to cultivate a handwriting which is supposed to "indicate character," as it is termed. The truth is that penmanship is a matter of conven-

tional form, and, if no attempt is made to conform to a standard, great annoyance and waste of time ensue. This objection may seem a trifling one, but in reality it is not. A reader is often puzzled, or misled, and sometimes must rely upon the context for the meaning of a scrawl.

PUNCTUATION AND ABBREVIATION.

Manuscripts, and even printed records, are sometimes punctuated in a way that makes the meaning ambiguous. Some inquirers and genealogists save their own time, but tax heavily that of others by abbreviating or contracting the names of persons. Such words should always be written in full, and if there are two Christian names, they should both appear complete. In writing "Jos." and "Jas.," the *o* and the *a* must be made with great care to prevent confusion. Many inaccuracies would be avoided if these matters were carefully observed.

RETURN POSTAGE.

Among the advantages attending the prepaying of postage, the saving of expense may be the least. Such forethought contributes to the convenience of the genealogist and it also economizes his time. An envelope stamped, and bearing the inquirer's address serves as the very best receptacle for the information, which, when complete, may be sent without unnecessary delay. The material cannot always be found on the first examination, but may unexpectedly come to notice, perhaps after weeks of search. However this may be, the inquirer's prepared envelope is ready for the post and thus saves time.

BUSINESS LETTERS.

It is a well-known rule that letters on business matters should be clear and brief. In an inquiry for genealogical information,

brevity is not always possible; but there is every reason for making a letter plain, and putting it in a form that will tax the reader as little as possible. A letter on social topics may begin on the first page, from which the writer may turn to the fourth page, then return to the third, and close on the second page, in lines at right angles with all the others in the letter. Fashion permits this, or any other vagary of the writer; but a letter on business, particularly an inquiry for genealogy, should be written to read in the plain style in which a book is read. There is, however, good reason for the fashion of omitting pages. It has its foundation probably in the printer's advice to "write on only one side of the paper." This plan is good for all letters. Manuscript may be better preserved if the writing appears on only one side of the sheet.

ACCURACY.

The essential quality of genealogical work, the one without which it is worthless, is accuracy. A compiler is not responsible for the *original* correctness of the statements he transcribes. He should, however, be held to a strict account if the information he furnishes be not *true to record.* His statements must bear their own evidence as being either matters of record or his own conclusions. Probabilities and possibilities must be distinctly so labeled. He must offer no conclusions without relating the circumstances or facts that lead him to those opinions. In this way and in no other can his work be made worthy of confidence.

OMISSIONS OF FAMILY NAMES.

In every lineage there are both prominent and obscure ancestors. The fullness of the record concerning them will be in proportion to their prominence. Men who

plied their daily round in the seclusion of their homes are difficult to trace; whereas the names of those who were often in the public gaze are to be found on nearly every page. Perhaps nothing disappoints the searcher more than the tracing of a lineage that is lacking in items of vital significance, which may possibly never be supplied. The most conspicuous of this kind of difficulty, because it is perhaps the most common, is the absence of the wife's family name. This omission is most frequent in the records of immigrants. The reason for it in most cases is that these people left the mother country very quietly, in fact, sometimes in concealment, and therefore no more information was recorded in the passenger lists than was absolutely necessary. In a majority of cases, only the first name of the wife appears and unless her family name is mentioned in her husband's will, or it is given in connection with rights to property

in the Old World, it never comes to light in America.

Want of care in preparing and preserving records in this country, both public and private, has caused the loss of many family names on the distaff side—names that should have been transmitted in marriage records. Negligence of this kind has rendered the tracing of some lineages uncertain, and of others quite impossible. The difficulty will increase at an alarming rate unless means be used to prevent it. A woman's family name is her birthright, and there is no valid reason why it should be lost to posterity merely because at her marriage she assumes another. The use of it afterward as a middle name does not save it. Nothing but a record of it in full can prevent its loss.

RECORDING FAMILY NAMES.

Much, however, may be done to prevent future loss. Public records would be increased in value if more thought were given

to their preparation. It would cost but little time or effort to make them more comprehensive. In addition to the person's name in a document of record, some information could easily be given as to family connection. This would serve to identify individuals, help to establish property rights, and furnish valuable information for future generations. It would require but few additional words to do this. For example: A will might be made to read: "I, Thomas Draper—son of Joseph and Abigail (Cass) Draper—bequeath to my wife, Mary—daughter of Nathaniel and Hannah (Bowen) Greene—to wit, etc." These words give information that is worth having. Here is the name of Thomas Draper's father, the maiden name of his mother, the maiden name of his wife, her father's full name, and the maiden name of her mother. After the name of a widow this would be especially valuable information. There might be inserted the following

after the name: *widow of Josiah Warren*, and "daughter of," etc., as above. Such explanatory words might be supplied in all marriage licenses and certificates, wills, deeds, and mortgages. The State should interest itself in prescribing this or some equally comprehensive formula. To women this necessity for complete records appeals with special significance, and through their efforts public sentiment might be aroused to its appreciation. It is the duty of every individual citizen to further this object by furnishing a record of his lineage. The name of an individual is a guide to only a small part of his ancestry. It is, therefore, of the utmost importance that all of one's lines of descent be put on record, thus the full names of all ancestors will be preserved, and the family connections known. Greater effort should be made to secure genealogical information for the use of historians and general readers. Every church or religious

society should keep a complete record of the families connected with it. Clergymen might superintend this work with but slight addition to their duties. Its importance should prompt church organizations to provide facilities for it. Every town in the land should preserve the history of its inhabitants, recorded in family groups. In family Bibles are records of births, marriages, and deaths, which should be copied and deposited in public libraries. This work can best be done through the agency of the school. Teachers and others having authority over schools, both public and private, are in direct communication with the homes from which these records could easily be obtained. There is no more valuable public service within the power of the teacher to perform than the securing of these historic documents for the benefit of succeeding generations. No delicacy of feeling need be violated, nor is it necessary to give pub-

licity to information that is purely private in character.

The various hereditary societies are vitally interested in restoring and preserving family records; but the thoroughness of their work must depend greatly upon the co-operation of individuals. By interchange of lineages, Americans might supply knowledge that would be of great historic value, and at the same time, incidentally widen their acquaintance. Many pleasing and profitable discoveries in relationship would be made thereby.

A LINEAGE RECORD.

To be of most value to future generations, the record of a lineage should contain all the family names, with dates and places of marriage. If made thus complete, or approximately so, it will furnish sufficient information for those who may wish to identify ancestors and connect lineages. The follow-

ing form may be recommended as satisfactory, showing the descent of Dorothy Richards from the emigrant ancestor, Ralph Sprague. If preferred, the order of the names may be reversed, in which case each name in the line of descent should be preceded by the words: *son of* or *daughter of*, as the case may be. The order here given is the more desirable, as it necessitates no repetition.

A LINEAGE OF DOROTHY RICHARDS, OF .....(Residence)

I am a descendant of Ralph Sprague and his wife, who was Joanna Warren. He came to America from Dorsetshire, England, in 1628 or 9, and settled at Charlestown, Mass.

Generations.	Line of Descent.	To Whom Married.	When.	Where.
1.	Samuel Sprague,	Rebecca Crawford,	Aug. 23, 1655,	Boston, Mass.
2.	Samuel Sprague,	Sarah Green,	about 1684,	Malden, Mass.
3.	Abigail Sprague,	Samuel Call,	about 1721,	Charlestown, Mass.
4.	James Call,	Hannah Masters,	March 8, 1757,	Leicester, Mass.
5.	Abigail Call,	Joel Bigelow,	about 1775,	Vermont.
6.	Martha Bigelow,	Eber Fiske,	Oct. 30, 1796,	Brandon, Vt.
7.	Julia Ann Fiske,	Orson Richards,	Sept. 5, 1830,	Schroon Lake, N. Y.
8.	Eber Richards,	Mary Eliza Culver,	Sept. 24, 1857,	Sandy Hill, N. Y.
9.	Frederick Barnard Richards,	Constance Emily Zorn,	June 12, 1895,	Granville, N. Y.
10.	Dorothy Richards,			

Here are four changes of family name in the line of descent. Nine changes are possible in a lineage of this length, that is, there are as many changes, less one, as there are generations from the ascendant, if all the individuals in the line of descent are daughters. These conditions are illustrated by one of the lineages of every daughter. In this line there are six persons besides Dorothy Richards, whose names give no hint of their descent from the Sprague family. These facts make clear the importance of records of this kind. Doubtless many Americans can trace lineages to fifty or more ancestors who came to this country prior to 1640; but the facts of individual descent will never be known if lineages are not recorded. We ought to complete the evidence of our right to be called Americans, by placing our lineages on record. If this were done by all Americans, the genealogical problems for this country would be solved.

NAMES RESTORED.

It is satisfactory to know that not all omissions of the family name are hopeless of remedy. Search in other records is sometimes rewarded. The blank sometimes means only that the compiler of that particular record had not found the name. Some of those missing in emigrant lists have been found in the Old World. Workers are constantly delving in foreign mines. Among these is Henry F. Waters, whose findings are regularly published by the New England Historic Genealogical Society under the title: "Genealogical Gleanings in England." He has thrown light into many dark corners. In this country, diligent search is being made for names supposed to have been lost, and there is always the hope that somehow, somewhere, they may be discovered, excepting those in such records as are known to have been lost by accident, as by fire.

ERRORS IN DATES.

The possibilities of error in transcribing are many. Some of these are apparent on their face, but others are not so plain. In many instances, corroborating records show that the figures of a date were transposed in the copying. In some instances, there is nothing but circumstantial evidence to show this. Such evidence is often sufficiently strong to establish the fact. Each discrepancy of this kind is to be cleared on its own evidence.

DOUBLE DATES.

The custom of double dating will present no difficulty if its purpose is understood. Prior to 1752, by the English method of reckoning, the year began March 25th. This accounts for the names of the last four months in our year, as practically, March was reckoned the first month of the year. In 1563, France adopted January 1st as the be-

ginning of the year. Scotland did likewise in 1600. It was not until 1752 that England came into line with other countries. Before 1752, therefore, in the records of those colonies that followed the English custom, dates between January 1st and March 24th, inclusive, were often indicated in two consecutive years, to be interpreted at the option of the reader, as conforming to the new, or to the old style. For example: February 12th, 1675-6 (or $167\frac{5}{6}$), meant February 12th, 1675, if the year was considered as ending March 24th; or 1676 if it ended December 31st. The last year of a double date corresponds to our system of reckoning. In the illustration, February 12th, 1676, is the correct date.

OLD STYLE AND NEW STYLE.

In this same year, 1752, in addition to changing the time for the year to begin, the Parliament of England made the change of dates from the Julian style of reckoning

(instituted by Julius Cæsar, 46, B. C., and popularly known as "Old Style") to the Gregorian style, (ordained by Pope Gregory XIII in 1582, and now called "New Style"); that is, it set all dates eleven days ahead, by making the 3d of September of that year the 14th.

This is important in determining the time between two dates that are respectively before and after September 2, 1752. The exact time between such dates is eleven days less than the computation would make it. For example: George Washington's exact age was eleven days less than the time between February 22, 1732, and December 14, 1799. This change in style of reckoning should be borne in mind in fixing anniversaries.

CHAPTER IV.

THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE GENEALOGIST.

"The dry branches of genealogical trees bear many pleasant and curious fruits for those who know how to search after them."—HENRY WARD BEECHER.

THE enormous amount of detail work before the beginner; the number of volumes, documents and widely scattered bits of information that await his attention, are sufficient, if appreciated in the early stages of the search, to discourage the faint-hearted. But in spite of the difficulties of the work, the novice will be infatuated with its delights, and will be led on by the attractions of his family history, and approach its completion with enlarged experience sufficient to enable him to answer

the question which has often occurred to him, viz: "Am I qualified for the work of the genealogist?"

Wide reading and thorough acquaintance with history and general literature, as recommended, while requisite, are not alone sufficient. There are gifts of temperament and mental qualities that fit one to do the best work in genealogy.

More than thirty years ago, Professor William Chauncey Fowler named what he regarded as the qualifications of the genealogist. His statement of them cannot be improved, as they are the essentials, and will therefore bear repeating. He put them in five brief phrases.

1.—LOVE OF KINDRED.

It is a regard for his family that prompts the beginner to trace his own ancestry. This laudable desire all should have; but not all are qualified for the work. Not all

have access to the material; nor could all devote the time to the work. Some one member of the family should assume this responsibility, while the others, recognizing the praiseworthy purpose, should lend every encouragement and contribute freely all the information within their reach. A family in whom there is no pride of kindred is most unfortunate, because it is unnatural. Whatever differences of disposition or of mere opinion may exist between the members of a family, the simple fact of relationship should prompt them to record their unity of blood. If no member of the family takes pride in collecting and putting into permanent form its history, the work can never be done with that art which is born of affection. It may be left for the stranger to set in cold type the dates of births, deaths, and marriages; but his work, however accurate it may be, will not glow with the love of kindred.

2.—LOVE OF INVESTIGATION.

Tireless patience has here the fullest scope. In one who is fortified against all discouragements, the work will develop a curiosity that cannot be satisfied till every source of information has been examined.

The faintest impression which evidence can by any possibility show to be the track of an ancestor, will call out all the instinct for search in one who loves investigation. To such a one nothing is unimportant that can in any way be connected with the goal sought. Chasing possibilities that grow into probabilities, and following up the latter until they transform themselves into actualities, constitute some of the gratifying compensations of the genealogist.

3.—ACTIVE IMAGINATION.

The dull, matter-of-fact mind may record names and dates; but it cannot clothe them with the living, human traits that every name represents in some degree. This power in a writer imparts zest to family history. So long as the bounds of historic consistency be not transgressed, one's ancestry may be idealized. Excursions of fancy are permissible when they do not lead to conclusions that are false to the record. The men and women whose career in all its import no record can portray, were alive with impulse and conviction. The time and place in which they wrought, and their station in life, combine to tell us more than dates or names alone can express. Their sterling qualities should be clothed with form and made to stand forth in pictures. The genealogist has here the opportunity to hold our ancestors before us as guides in the highway of duty.

4. SOUND AND DISCIPLINED JUDGMENT.

This is to the genealogist what ballast is to the ship. Without the power to weigh historic statements, a worker is sure to produce unreliable results. There is need of constant and clear discernment of the distinction between reliable tradition—that food of the memory which gives the clue to profitable research—and those inconsistent and often meaningless vagaries of the unlearned. Tradition is highly serviceable to the genealogist, often corroborating history to an astonishing degree. Clear, unbiased judgment is able to sift the chaff from the wheat, and to make unwritten history the basis of investigations that lead to valuable discovery. This power is the product of natural endowment, wide reading, and the training of the faculties to weigh well what is under consideration.

The power to appreciate degrees in the

quality of evidence is of the utmost value here. What at first appears to be documentary evidence may, on examination, prove to be only recorded tradition, possessing no value. Circumstantial evidence is sometimes the genealogist's sole guide, and may be stronger than any obtainable record. It is ample proof, at times, and can be relied upon as conclusive. The power to analyze conditions, and to establish proofs from them, is a mental gift of the highest order; and a mind so equipped may be confidently trusted. Such judgment fulfills all it promises, for its conclusions are reached by reasoning and not by wishing.

5.—CONSCIENTIOUS REGARD TO TRUTH.

A searcher with no desire to find the truth is like a ship without a pilot. All other qualifications combined are worthless without this. No love of kindred should tempt one to paint pictures in false colors.

Love of investigation should not push itself beyond the realm of truth, nor should fondness for discovery seek to convert possibility, or even probability, into actuality. Imagination should not bemean itself by resorting to invention. What the world seeks, and insists upon having is truth, and he who is guided by its light will make trustworthy distinctions, and inspire confidence in every word he utters.

To complete the equipment of the genealogist, there might be added to those named two other qualifications, although they are not absolutely essential to good work.

6.—A RETENTIVE MEMORY.

This is in part natural, or inborn, and in part the result of cultivation. The value of memory is in its quality. There are two kinds of memory. The distinction between them may be illustrated by analogy. One kind of memory suggests the peration of

the magnet, to which certain kinds of matter are drawn. It has an affinity for particular substances, to the exclusion of all others. These substances are attracted by a mysterious force that seems to be governed by no law, excepting in the mere choice of substance. So it is with one kind of memory. The attention is attracted as if by a magnet, that is, by a date, or a name, or by the order of words in an address, or other bit of literature, or by the jingle of a poem—by anything possessing the necessary magnetism—or whatever it may be—to draw and hold it. This kind of memory is often possessed by minds that are in other respects quite inferior. An instance of this kind of memory was that of "Blind Tom," who was wonderful in his ability to imitate piano playing, and to reproduce complicated musical selections from hearing them performed but once; yet his mentality was of a very inferior order. This quality of memory, as exhibited by the

lower order of minds, has given origin to the phrase: "Fools with long memories."

The other kind of memory is a power of attention, exercised in accordance with a law much like that of the attraction of gravitation. By this law all bodies attract all other bodies. None are beyond its power; but this power is always (the distances between the bodies being the same) in proportion to the masses of the bodies. So it seems to be with the mind well endowed. Different subjects attract the attention with power proportioned to their importance. Nothing escapes notice; but non-essentials have comparatively little power to hold the attention; matters of greater weight receiving the greater consideration. This quality of memory is subject to a definite law, and is possessed by the mentally strong. An instance of this kind of memory was that of Henry Ward Beecher. He possessed little or no power to recall figures, the order of

words in hymns, or the precise language of a speaker or writer. This was one reason why he so rarely quoted from others; but he was a master of the relation and connection of thought in a discourse.

Although the quality of memory first described is not of a high rank, it is inherited, in varying degrees, by many who possess that of the highest quality. Held subordinate, it is of the greatest value. A combination of the two kinds constitutes the ideal memory. Such was that of Lord Macaulay, or of Theodore Parker. These men retained impressions of both great and small things; but they held them with a keen sense of their relative importance. The genealogist whose power of retention is shaped after such models will, in this respect, lack nothing desirable. There is, however, one word that should be said by way of caution against trusting the memory unduly. Only by means of systematic memoranda can cer-

tainty be guaranteed by the genealogist. Memory should be employed as a guide, and not as a receptacle for facts. With a tenacious memory a searcher will do his work in less time, and more easily, than he could without it.

7.—A PLEASING STYLE AS A WRITER.

The subject matter with which the genealogist has to deal is not usually attractive in itself. Excepting the biography of such men and women as were active in public affairs, or were conspicuous in thrilling incident, the records of lineages are the stories of commonplace lives. It is all the more necessary, therefore, that the author clothe the facts in a dress that will interest the reader. Clearness, conciseness, and accuracy, it is admitted, are of first importance, but a record may possess all these qualities and still lack the power to attract. If, however, these essentials are embellished with that

indefinable smoothness, vivacity, and elegance of diction which a master of English can command, the family genealogy will be worthy of a place in the library as a work in literature. One reason why family histories are not more attractively written, and consequently more entertaining, is plain to be seen. They do not succeed as business enterprises, and therefore, they fail to receive the care they deserve. The demand for them is not usually such as to secure their authors against pecuniary loss; nevertheless, it will not be denied that more should be done to add to the attractiveness of their style. Much of the success of the writer of genealogy depends upon his ability to present the subject in a style that holds the attention of the reader.

CHAPTER V.

THE NUMBER AND NAMES OF OUR ANCESTORS.

"We know the tenacity of certain family characteristics through long lines of descent, and it is not impossible that any one of a hundred and twenty-eight grandparents, if indeed the full number existed in spite of family admixtures, may have transmitted his or her distinguishing traits through a series of lives that cover more than two centuries, to our own contemporary."—OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

THERE is a curiosity quite general concerning the number of ancestors any given individual may reckon. Interest is greatly increased when it is considered how receding ancestral lines are lost in a net-work which grows more and more complicated as the computation progresses. If these lines could all be accurately traced they would bring to light many relationships that would prove astonishing. They would disclose our connection with the past, present, and future in a way that would heighten

our self-respect, and, possibly, humble our ill-founded pride and exclusiveness.

ARITHMETIC APPLIED.

So far as mathematics is applicable to the solution of the problem, the number of one's ancestors is calculated by the law of geometrical progression. The first term is 2—the number of parents of the individual; the rate is 2—the number of parents of each ancestor; the number of terms is the number of generations included; and the sum of the series is the total number of ancestors in the generations considered. To illustrate: The sum of the series, 2, 4, 8, 16, and so on, to 4,096 inclusive, is 8,190; which applied, means that the total number of one's ancestors in twelve generations is 8,190. If we estimate a generation as averaging in length a third of a century, we find that one born in the last third of the nineteenth century, may claim more than four thousand

ancestors living in the last third of the fifteenth century, all of whom may have shared in the wonder of the world at the discoveries of Columbus and the Cabots. If the number of generations be increased to include twenty-five, that is, if the lines be followed back to the year 1066, one could reckon more than thirty-three and a half million progenitors contemporary with William the Conqueror—a number fifteen times as great as the population of Great Britain at that time. It is necessary to go back only a few more generations to reach a time when the number of one's ancestors would exceed the population of the globe.

UNIVERSAL ANCESTRY.

These calculations involve some apparent absurdities. By this method of counting, we soon arrive at a generation in which the number of one's ancestors equalled the entire population of the globe at some period

of its history. Just what generation that was, we do not, nor cannot, know; but we are forced to the conclusion that every individual of that generation—excepting those whose posterity have since become extinct—was a progenitor of every person in this generation. Some interesting reflections are suggested by this course of reasoning.

DESCENT FROM ROYALTY.

There have been kings in all generations; therefore, if the arithmetical theory be correct—and, modified by certain conditions, it cannot be questioned—every individual of this generation is a descendant of kings and queens. Had noblemen all been noble men, this belief that royal blood has coursed through every line of descent would be satisfying, even to the most fastidious, were it not for the other side of the picture, viz.: the descent of all from the low and vicious, for such there have been in all generations.

ARITHMETIC MISLEADING.

There is a difficulty here, not in the operation of arithmetic, but in the fact that its application ignores so much that is of vital significance. History reveals conditions that have always been at variance with the practical application; conditions that show the problem of determining the number of ancestors to be not so simple, and which prove that the world has not been peopled according to arithmetical formula. The application of arithmetic is based on the supposition that no two lines of ancestry united in more than one generation. The fact is quite otherwise, as intermarriages have been at all times and in every locality more or less frequent. They have been brought about by various causes. The desire to keep property rights, prestige or kingly power within family limits has actuated royal families from time immemorial, and intermarriages

to accomplish these ends have been the rule among them. Other families have retained property or social rank in the same way. People have been without the opportunity of widening their acquaintance, as facilities for travel have been insufficient and means of communication, in person or by post, have been limited, so that communities have been more or less isolated for generations. In other words, because the population has not been sufficiently dispersed and intermingled to bring together unrelated families, there have been marriage alliances between kindred. These conditions have everywhere had an influence in causing intermarriages. There have been frequent discoveries of one's ancestors living for several generations in adjacent towns, and, as would naturally be expected, they were found to have been related in varying degrees.

LOVE VS. MATHEMATICS.

Had the population, however, been in number and distribution sufficient in every generation for the full play of the arithmetical mode of reckoning, there would still be other considerations to interfere with its application. There has always been an exercise of choice, which defeats cold calculation. This process of selection in marriage gives a zest to genealogy which no inflexible rule of arithmetic can impart. Without the selective affinities, there would have been no great families transmitting their untitled nobility; no long lines of honorable ancestry, or distinguished lineages which confer honor upon all connected with them. This discriminating choice of life companions has at times confined the lines of descent within narrow limits, and then separated them, again to unite them, and so on down the stream of time. It must, however, be ad-

mitted that these conditions, though they interfere with arithmetical reckoning, do not alter the fact that a generation did exist in which all the world were our ancestors. It is uncertain only as to when that generation existed. This admission is not an implication that all lineages are on the same plane, or are equal in dignity or character. The laws of personal attraction and association of the fittest, have operated to affiliate persons on the same mental, moral or social plane. This has been the rule, though exceptions to it are not wanting.

A GREAT WORK.

The subject of ancestry, involving the law of descent, our relation to mankind in all time, and all that is implied by that relationship, has been fully and scientifically treated by Henry Kendall in his admirable book: "The Kinship of Men." He gives indisputable proof of our descent from all

the inhabitants of the globe, living at a period much nearer to us in point of time than one who is unfamiliar with the study would suppose. His treatment of the subject is thoroughly convincing, and grows marvelously fascinating. The book may be recommended to all who would pursue the study thoroughly. He clearly shows how the conditions above named tend to impair the theory of arithmetic; in fact, he proves the impossibility of fixing the period of universal ancestry by rules of arithmetic.

EXACT NUMBER OF ANCESTORS UNCERTAIN.

The world has reached the stage in its growth when, for a few generations—perhaps of some individuals, seven or eight—the number of one's ancestors may be computed approximately by this rule; but the exact number of ancestors an individual had at any given date beyond about eight generations, it is all but impossible to determine.

Early marriages of the oldest children in the line of descent, as has been illustrated, shorten the generations in which they occur, and tend to produce uncertainty in the calculation. There are numerous instances of persons of the same age being cousins, twice, or even three times removed; although they are not more than eight generations from their common ancestor.

TRACING TO ROYALTY.

It is true that if it were possible to follow backward all the lines of descent of any one of us, some of these lines would lead to kings and queens; yet, with the exception of a few families, the actual tracing of lineages to royal blood is difficult, if not impossible. The generation of royal ancestry is too far back from the great majority of the race to admit of certainty in the tracing.

PERIOD OF ARITHMETICAL CERTAINTY.

The slight interest genealogy has been able to command in the past has produced a general want of comprehension of it in this age. Negligence in the keeping of records, arising from this want of interest, has helped in making it impossible to determine where arithmetic begins to fail. Fortunately, it is not important for us to know precisely where certainty in the application of mathematics ends; but we can and do know that beyond that period, lines of descent were closely linked together. Frequently in early ages, and, in some localities in modern times, a single line of ancestors has represented several ancestral lines. Be this as it may, one's pleasure is not so much in an accurate count of one's ancestors in any generation, or at any given date, as it is in being able to associate them with the activities and progress of their time.

NAMES OF PERSONS.

Interesting as it would be to know how many ancestors one could claim, there is an equally attractive study in what history has to say of the names which those ancestors bore. There is the charm of poetry in Juliet's thought of Romeo when she says. "What's in a name? That which we call a rose, by any other name would smell as sweet." In contrast with this was the severely practical idea of the countryman who replied that the reason why he called his son John was because that was his name. Allowing both the poet and the rustic the right of opinion, there is still much to say in proof that names have meaning. It would be almost trite to say that they originated in necessity, but such is the fact.

THE PURPOSE OF NAMES.

It was necessary to identify individuals, and this purpose a name could the more effectually fulfill if it had foundation in some quality possessed by its owner; hence, Christian or baptismal names were originally descriptive of character or personal peculiarity. Such names are to be found in the history of ancient peoples. They abound in the Scriptures, and in the annals of Greece, Rome, and the early German tribes. In the early ages, doubtless, all Christian names had meaning, and were applied to describe individuality: but in modern times, among civilized people, very few of them have been applied in that way. Rufus is the name of quite as many dark-haired men of the present day as it was formerly of red-haired sons; and there are probably no more defenders among the Williams now than there are among those of any other name equally

common. Savage races, being yet in the primitive stage, apply names with reference to their signification. The American Indian is proud of his appellation: Long Bow, Eagle Eye, Big Thunder, or some similar one, signifying skill or prowess.

FAMILY NAMES.

The history of the growth of the race as manifested in the development of names, is exceedingly interesting. As population increased, and people associated in clans and tribes, it became more and more difficult to distinguish individuals. To meet these conditions, family names were applied to persons. History records the progress of these changes. They were, however, so gradual that the exact period when names of families (surnames) were first employed cannot be fixed. From the earliest times, the family seems to have been the unit of organization, and a name common to all the members

of it was employed in the order of time next after the personal name.

THE ROMAN METHOD.

Among the earliest people to adopt family names, of whom we have definite record, were the Romans. They went further than our custom in this, and gave three names to the individual: First, the prenomen, or personal name, corresponding to our Christian name; second, the name of the gens to which the person belonged; and third, the cognomen, or family name, corresponding to our surname. Thus: Caius, of the Julian gens (or clan), and of the Cæsar family, was Caius Julius Cæsar. The gens, or clan, like the family, was composed of individuals descended from a common ancestor, but from one more remote than a father. Our custom of giving two Christian names to an individual is not of special historical significance; but the second Christian name

of a child, if it is the family name of the mother, or of some other ancestor, is sometimes serviceable as the only clue to important information. The family name of a woman, when assumed as a second name, after her marriage, is an inadequate record, but, it is better than none at all.

BOOKS ON NAMES.

The genealogist will find abundant authorities. Among the works treating the subject, the following may be cited: "Genealogy and Surnames," by W. Anderson; "Derivation of Family Names," by William Arthur; "Our English Surnames," by C. W. Bardsley; "Suffolk Surnames," by N. I. Bowditch. (This work has been revised and is a valuable repository of information concerning the early New England names); "Female Christian Names and Their Teachings," by M. E. Bromfield; "Lexicon of Ladies' Names," by Mrs. S. C.

Carter; "Ludus Patronymicus, or, The Etymology of Curious Surnames," also "Verba Nominalia, or, Words Derived from Proper Names," by Richard S. Charnock; "Surnames and Sirenames," by James Finlayson; "English Surnames in Groups," by C. L. Lordon; "Patronymica Britannica, a Dictionary of Family Names of the United Kingdom," also "Essays on Family Nomenclature," (two volumes), by M. A. Lower; "Meaning and Derivation of Christian Names," by S. Moody; Salverte's "History of Names," a great work in two volumes, giving the philosophy of names, and showing how they have been employed in the different nations of the world; "History of Christian Names," two volumes, by Charlotte M. Yonge; "Origin and Meaning of English and Dutch Names of New York State Families," by George R. Howell; "Concerning Some Scotch Surnames," by Cosmo Innes;

"The Names We Bear," also "Personal and Family Names," by H. A. Long.

ORIGIN OF SURNAMES.

In the study of their origin, it has been convenient to consider surnames in five groups. Whatever changes may have been made in the spelling, even though they are altered to the extent of obliterating their early meaning, and from whatever language they may have been derived, it is believed that all surnames belong within the following classes:

1. Names derived in the same way as Christian names; that is, they denote some personal qualities possessed by their original owners. They are called sobriquets, or nicknames and were probably among the earliest surnames, as: Armstrong, Sharpe, Long, Goodman, Bright.

2. Those derived from the names of fathers. They are called patronymics, as: Johnson (or Jansen) son of John. (This

mode of forming surnames is very common in Norway and Sweden); McHugh, son of Hugh; Fitz Patrick, son of Patrick. To this class belong surnames that are identical in form with Christian names, as: James, Henry, Roberts; also diminutives, as: Franklin, little Frank; Bartlett, little Bartholomew.

3. Names derived from localities or objects in nature. Residence in the vicinity of such objects has suggested modes of distinguishing families. Such names are: Ford, Field, Rowley (sweet field), Waters, Forest (originally de Forest, signifying at, near to, or in the forest).

4. Many surnames have been suggested by the occupations of their original owners, as: Fuller, Chapman, Cooke, Mason.

5. Public office, station in life, and social position, have furnished names. To this class belong: Earle, Freeman, Clarke (originally Clerk), Knight.

THE STUDY OF NAMES.

Not all names have derivation so obvious as those cited in illustration; but traced to their origin, they may all be found within the classes named. Among the delights of genealogical research there are few greater than those afforded by the study of names. The surprises that result from the tracing of names from one generation, period, or lan- language to another, through their varying forms, abundantly repay the time and labor involved. A knowledge of the origin and history of names is of great service to the genealogist. Without it, he will be led into false reasoning. For example: A searcher discovers an ancestor who inherited the sur- name *Lamb*, and with it, possibly, the de- sirable quality of meekness, characteristic of the animal from which the name was derived. This is quite satisfactory, but on finding that one of them bore the name

Hogg, he feels a sense of humiliation. Had he known that in Scotland, where the name *Hogg* originated, it was applied to a yearling lamb, he would not have been in the least discomfited.

ID NTITY OF NAMES.

Without a knowledge of the origin of names, one will be led into unwarranted conjecture. Not giving consideration to all the facts, one will be likely to associate individuals because they chance to have the same name. It is clear that any one of the circumstances upon which the above classification is based, may exist at the same time, or at different times, in more than one place in the world. In short, of many surnames, it is undoubtedly true that the same one originated at different times, and in different parts of the world. This must be true of such names as Shepherd and Fisher (or the German form, Fischer), as they were

derived from occupations that were in early times well-nigh universal. The more common the name, the more numerous, probably, have been the places of its origin. These facts should suggest great caution against trusting the mere identity of surnames as evidence of relationship. Two or more families of the same name are sometimes found to have lived in the same locality for several generations. In the early history of our country, emigrants of the same name often settled in the same town. These facts may justify the inference of relationship, but such inference should always be followed up by investigation. The predominance of particular Christian names, common to different families of the same surname, especially if the Christian names are unusual, is some evidence of relationship.

MODES OF NAMING CHILDREN.

The customs followed by our ancestors in the giving of names to their children, are worthy of notice as being helpful to the genealogist. No one has failed to observe that in the early generations in our country —particularly among the Puritans—it was a custom to give the father's name to the eldest son, and that of the mother to the eldest daughter. This has not been so common in later generations. There were some oddities in early times in the naming of children. A few instances occur of brothers or sisters having the same Christian names, as: Humphrey Turner, of Scituate, Mass., is recorded as having two sons, both living, named John. In most cases of this kind, doubtless, the father married more than once. A few Christian names have been common to both sexes, as: Love, Experience.

THE CHANGING OF NAMES.

The State guards the use of names. It will not permit one to evade identity through a change of name. If, however, there is a valid reason for assuming a different name, the State, by legislative enactment, and through the instrumentality of the courts, may permit it; as: the wish to prevent confusion of individuals; seeking relief from the burden of popular prejudice against a name; the desire of a ward to take the name of his guardian, and the like. If lists of names that have been changed were made accessible to searchers, they would be of great service.

CHAPTER VI.

THE GENEALOGY OF THE FAMILY.

"It is only shallow-minded pretenders, who either make distinguished origin a matter of personal merit, or obscure origin a matter of personal reproach."—DANIEL WEBSTER.

A BOOK apparently made up of dry facts and endless repetition of names, has for most readers very little of interest, although its contents may involve the affairs of people in every quarter of the land. Indeed there are few books which the genealogist has occasion to consult that cover broader territory, geographically, than the family genealogy. Some families have representatives in nearly every state in our Union. Most successful genealogists have either planned, or actually written, the genealogy of their own families. One's work naturally culminates in one's

own record, and, therefore, a separate chapter gives none too much space to this special subject.

THE PIONEER BOOK.

The first family genealogy published in this country is believed to be that of the Stebbins family, printed at Hartford, Connecticut, in 1771. Its title page reads as follows: "Genealogy of the Family of Mr. Samuel Stebbins and Mrs. Hannah Stebbins, His Wife, from the year 1707 to the year 1771, by Ebenezer Watson."

GENEALOGIES NUMEROUS.

Since that book appeared, genealogies have multiplied, especially within the past quarter of a century, until there are now about twenty-five hundred of them. They vary in scope, some of them treating only of minor branches of a family, while others aim to include all the living descendants of an

emigrant ancestor, or, in some cases, of two or more such ascendants. This estimate includes books printed as genealogies more or less complete, and not the fragmentary family records that appear in local histories.

THE BOOK EXAMINED.

The time spent by the beginner in examining the family genealogy will not be wasted, as it may be his ambition, at some time, to prepare a similar book. We may, therefore, profitably consider how the material for such a work is collected and arranged, and how the facts gathered may be marshaled in an order that will be both intelligible and accessible to the reader.

THE WORK TO BE DONE.

The compiler of a family genealogy has two distinct kinds of work before him; that is, information is to be obtained in two ways: by search in records, and by inquiry of indi-

viduals. Concerning the early generations, he must gain a knowledge either from records in libraries, or from custodians of public unprinted documents; but to obtain information of the latest generation, and often of one or more prior generations, he must correspond with persons of the family name. He must call for contributions from private records, and here he should be prepared to meet discouragement. He must exercise discretion to secure help from those who are competent to give it, that is, from those, only, whose work may be relied upon as accurate.

GETTING THE FACTS SHOULD BE EASY.

Again, it must be repeated that the duty of giving to the public the benefit of private records cannot be too strongly urged. No over-exclusiveness should stand in the way of public-spirited work of this kind. Much information, now in the exclusive possession

of families, would, if it could be obtained, be of service to compilers of genealogies, and through them, to all students of history. A convenient form, or printed blank, should be used in which the items desired could be easily inserted. This would be the means of securing much that cannot otherwise be obtained. Some persons are acquainted with the requirements of the genealogist, and would prefer to write the facts in their own way, and may be requested to do so; but many persons of whom inquiries are made either have not the time to give to arranging the items for a family record; or, as is true of most people, they are not familiar with that kind of work. Being unable to reply in a way that seems to them acceptable, they do not reply at all; for it is only natural to avoid giving publicity to one's want of experience. Such persons are often unjustly accused of indifference; whereas, if the work were simplified, and the questions made

definite, the information would be furnished promptly. By means of these prepared sheets for inquiry, the compiler would not only be able to obtain the facts he needs, but also would avoid irrelevant and trifling matter, which not only is without interest, but positively detracts from good genealogical work. Unfortunately, considerable matter of this kind finds its way into genealogies of families. Every means should be employed to prevent the encumbrance of such material.

FORM FOR FAMILY HISTORY.

Suitable forms for family history can be prepared at small expense. The history of a family, excepting that of especially prominent people, would not require more than one leaf of foolscap size. The first page should be given to an outline of the events in the lives of the parents and their children. The second page should be used for the narrative, or biographical history, in which par-

ticulars may receive attention that are not provided for on the first page. A family of prominence may require one or more extra sheets for their history. Such extensions may easily be made as they are needed. Using a form of this kind (one that is easily written) the compiler of a genealogy, in addition to obtaining the precise information needed, would be saved an incalculable amount of labor, and would be able also to avoid many errors which it is impossible to prevent in written work. For securing definite and desirable information the following form for family history is recommended:

Family name .....

* ....b.....in.....son of..... ...
(date).
m. 1st .....dau. of.....of.....on.....
(date).
m. 2d.....dau. of.....of .....on.....
(date).
m. 3d.....dau. of... .....of.....on.....
(date).
went from ... .to.....in .....
(date).
and from.....to.....in .....

Occupation ....d.....at.....

buried at ....His* wife was

b.....at.....d .. ..

at .....buried at.....

Children.	Born.	To Whom and When Married.	Resided.	Died.

*Christian name of head of the family. *my ancestor.

FAMILY HISTORY.

Complete here, the record of the children, if necessary, and record important facts concerning any of the family, including military, or official service of the father or of any of the sons, making the history of the family as complete as possible.

This form is so simple that no explanations are necessary. If there was more than one wife, the number of the one who was the ancestor should be recorded on the first page. Facts concerning the others may be included on the second page. A few words might accompany the leaf, in explanation of abbreviations or other particulars, if thought necessary. It should be said that the leaf is well adapted for the complete record of one's ancestry, inasmuch as every ancestor is the head of a family. A margin should be left for convenience in binding. Each ancestral family would require one leaf with occasionally an extra sheet to make room for a more extended history. These leaves, numbered and arranged chronologically, beginning either with the earliest or the latest generations, to suit preference, would form a very convenient and readable book of ancestry.

ARRANGEMENT OF CONTENTS.

There are two ways in which the contents of a family genealogy may be arranged, either one of which insures convenience of access, and is easy to comprehend, the choice between the two methods depending upon the purpose of the compiler.

FIRST METHOD.

The usual aim of the writer of a family genealogy is to record all or as many as can be found, of the descendants of an ancestor, and the custom seems to be to begin with the common ascendant, and continue with the descendants in the order of time, to the latest generation, the representatives of which appear at the end of the volume.

INDEX INDISPENSABLE.

In the making of some of these records there has been a serious want of care in not adapting them to the convenience of those who consult them ; a negligence that causes waste of both energy and time. All genealogical books, indeed, all books of reference, excepting hand-books, possibly, should be either indexed or alphabetically arranged. There are few experiences more annoying than being unable to turn readily to what is wanted. Some works that contain valuable records are without index. Within the past year, there has appeared a genealogy of one of the large and prominent families of this country, a book of six hundred pages, rich in material, but it lacks facilities for reference, having no index. An oversight of this kind renders a book well nigh as inconvenient to the genealogist as a dictionary would be without the alphabeti-

cal arrangement of words. The index of a family genealogy should contain the full names of all the members of the family of which the book treats, and a list of all other family names, that is, of all individuals who have married into the family. Another list would be a great convenience, viz: the names of all places referred to in the book as residences. The genealogist frequently desires to ascertain whether a certain individual of the family name treated is included in the book. Should the name be a common one, as John, he might search long before finding the individual, or learning that he is not mentioned in the book; whereas the name of the place in which the said John resided, or its omission, would quickly determine the point.

EASY REFERENCE.

One invaluable merit in a genealogy is facility of reference from index to contents. This is best insured by numbering the names of heads of families. Perhaps no better way of explaining a good method can be found than taking for illustration a work in actual existence. No more satisfactory plan has been devised than that adopted by the compiler of the Bigelow Genealogy. It is not claimed that this is the only representative of its kind; but it is selected because it is a specimen of the best method of arranging and numbering the names. Each generation constitutes a chapter of the book. The work begins with a biographical sketch of John Bigelow, the ancestor of nearly all of that family name in America. His number is 1. His children are numbered, in the order of their birth, beginning with 2. A mark is placed before the name of every son

who is afterward recorded in the work, as a head of a family. The marriage of each daughter is recorded, with other facts, so far as they may be ascertained, and her children are numbered with Roman numerals. The names of her grandchildren appear without numbers. This comprises the first generation of the descendants of John Bigelow, and constitutes the first chapter of the book. The next generation begins with the first son recorded as the head of a family. Before his name are two numbers: No. 1, that of his father; and the number he had as recorded with his brothers and sisters. After his biographical notice are the names of his children, numbered in the order of birth, beginning with the next number after that of the last child recorded in the preceding generation. The same method is pursued with these children as with those of No. 1, as to designating sons as heads of families, and as to record of the daughters. The

other sons in the preceding generation, who were heads of families, are recorded in the same way, to complete the second generation, and so the work proceeds till all the descendants of the common ancestor, John Bigelow, are recorded with consecutive numbers from 1 to the end.

THE METHOD ILLUSTRATED.

The following lineage will illustrate the method: The sixth child of John Bigelow was Joshua, numbered 7, and before his name in his record as head of a family are the numbers 1–7. Joshua's second child was Jonathan, numbered 44, and before his name, subsequently recorded, are the numbers 7–44. Jonathan's second child was Benjamin, numbered 145, and before his name, again recorded, are the numbers 44–145. Benjamin's seventh child was Joel, numbered 453, who is again recorded after the numbers 145–453. Joel's fourth child

was Martha, who, not being the head of a family, is given but one number, 1070. Martha's eighth child was Leura, numbered VIII. This method of numbering makes the tracing of lineages very easy. Thus, the lineage of Leura's children as recorded in this work is, 1–7–44–145–453–1070–VIII. They are descendants of John Bigelow, in the eighth generation. These numbers show the relationship an individual sustains to the common ancestor, the number of his generation in the descent appearing unmistakable. For example: the children referred to are descendants *of* John Bigelow in the eighth generation, by which mode of reckoning John Bigelow is in the first generation. They are descended *from* the ascendant in the seventh generation, or they are seven generations *from* him. This distinction between *of* and *from*, as used to designate the generation in descent, is worth noting.

The index of both names and places should refer to the numbers of the heads of families and not to pages. In this respect the Bigelow genealogy could be improved. In one other particular it could be made more complete. Instead of two figures before the name of each head of a family, all the numbers should appear, continued back to include No. 1, with all but the highest in parenthesis, as (1–7–44–145), 453, Joel Bigelow. Numbers in the parenthesis are preferable to Christian names, sometimes used.

SECOND METHOD.

When the purpose of a compiler is to ascertain and record, not all of the descendants of a given ancestor, but to place on record the ancestors of his family, or his own lineages, the method of arranging the material should be different from that usually followed. It is more convenient to present the latest generation at the beginning of the

book and the different ascendants as they appear in the record, at the ends of the different lines of descent. By this plan, the book of lineages of an individual or family may be read from his or their generation back to the ascendants, in the usual and easy order, as any other book is read, giving information from the known to the unknown.

A compiler, in making a record of his own lineages—that is, his genealogy—would begin with the biographical record of his father; (or, if he is himself the head of a family, his own life should first be written) after which should be written the record of his father's children, with facts sufficient to enable searchers to recognize ancestors among them if such there be. Next should appear the record of his paternal grandfather, with his children in the same way, and so on, as far as possible, through his family name. The book should be in two parts: the first part to contain the lineages

of his father; and the second part, the lineages of his mother. For this reason, after completing his own family name, he would omit the family name of his mother, reserving it for the second part. He would begin next with the record of his paternal grandmother's father, proceeding through that family name as he did with his own, and following that with the family names of all the wives who were his ancestors in the reverse order of their marriages. This will present no difficulty. Each family name should be traced as far as possible, followed by the family name of the next wife, and so on until the father's lineage is complete. The record would read in a succession of family names, in the reverse order of their union. The second part of the book should begin with the mother's father and continue through her family name; succeeding which should appear the family names of the other wives, in their order to the end, in the same

manner as in the first part of the book. For the purpose of emphasizing the characteristic idea of this plan of record, the names of heads of families should be in heavy-faced type, both when recorded as children and when placed at the head of biographical sketches; and in the latter position they should also be numbered. Each part of the book should begin with No. 1 and be indexed, as has been explained. Each ancestor is recorded twice, viz.: a man as a head of a family and as a child; a woman as a wife and as a child. In the biographical sketch a number should appear after the name of the wife who was an ancestor, to indicate the head of the family in which she is recorded as a daughter; and with the latter use of her name a number should appear referring back to her record as a wife. Should it be thought undesirable to separate the lineages of the father and the mother, the record of the

latter would appear in its regular place, being taken up after that of the family name. For the single book only one index is required, and the numbers of heads of families will continue from 1 to the end of the book; the last, or highest number, representing half the number of one's ancestors recorded. It will be found, however, that the book is more desirable printed in separate parts, the advantage of this accruing more especially to those who may be able to connect their lineages with one part of the book, but not with the other.

SUPERIORITY OF THIS PLAN.

A book after this plan furnishes a more complete genealogy of an individual or of a family than one written after the usual method. Here is a record of all the lineages (the genealogy) of all the children, heads of families, and wives (who were ancestors) named in the book. In genealogies of the

usual kind, only one lineage of an individual appears, viz: the one traced through the family name, of which the book treats, that is, the male line, and none at all of the wives, nor of the children of other family names. Here are fewer descendants, but their genealogy is as complete as it is possible to make it. A searcher who can connect a lineage with one of these lines will find abundant reward in the work that has been done for him by another searcher. The volume may not be pretentious in size, but in richness of contents, it will more than compensate for its want of bulk. It contains much for a few, rather than little for many. Although this method of printing records is in some respects similar to that long ago recommended by the New England Historic Genealogical Society, it differs from that in many particulars, and is not, in any sense, a copy of that plan. It is needless to say that the making of such a

book should not be based on the hope of pecuniary gain. It should be written from a love of possessing it, and not for revenue; else disappointment is an almost sure result; yet, being a shorter work compared with one by the first method, its expense would be less.

BOOKS ON A SIMILAR PLAN.

There are several books written after a method approaching this, in that they present lineages through different families. There is no special order, however, in which the family records are arranged, the object being to include information concerning the families from which the compiler of the book is descended. Among these are: "Items of Ancestry," by Mrs. Ida M. Robinson; Egle's "Genealogical Record;" the "Vinton Memorial;" "Contributions Biographical, Genealogical and Historical," by E. W. Pierce; Thayer's "Family Memor-

ial;" Titcomb's "Early New England People;" Talcott's "Genealogical Notes of New York and New England Families." Goodwin's "Genealogical Notes" is confined chiefly to Connecticut families, yet belongs to this class of works. "The Founders of Mass. Bay Colony," by S. S. Smith.

TWO CLASSES OF GENEALOGISTS.

That system of arrangement is best which affords the genealogist the readiest access to all he wants to know, and which furnishes general readers with the most valuable records of past generations.

A study of the art of making family genealogies is important to every compiler of records. There are two classes of persons interested in this subject: 1, professional genealogists; these are comparatively few in number. 2, amateur genealogists, comprising a greater number of searchers. The latter are sufficiently interested to collect in-

formation concerning their own family or the ancestry of their intimate friends. No well defined distinction can be drawn between these two classes. It may be said that the professional genealogist in this country is one who gains his livelihood by, or who gives his entire time to, the work of tracing ancestry, verifying and interpreting coats-of-arms, and preparing family histories. His faithful effort is a service worthy of compensation. Even the term *genealogist* is not a definite one. It is applied sometimes to the second class, who pursue the work as an avocation, employing now and then an hour spared from professional or business cares, and who find in it a relief from routine duty. One may be a genealogist who, free from enforced occupations, turns to the work to gratify his taste for research. Many who have engaged themselves in these ways, though making no claim to being professional genealogists, have

proved themselves possessed of the highest qualifications for the work and have acquired knowledge and experience of great value. Between the two classes of workers there should be no clash of interests, yet the professional genealogist has sometimes criticised the amateur for venturing beyond his legitimate sphere, and the criticism has not always been unjust, although any genealogical sphere may be considered legitimate for any one who is competent to work in it.

THE ENGLISH STANDPOINT.

In the opinion of English authorities, there are no professional genealogists in this country. It is argued that a searcher in English archives needs special qualifications not required by a worker here. He must be skilled in deciphering the odd spelling in the old English, and the quaint contractions employed by the annalists in the "Visita-

tions of the various counties of England during the one hundred and fifty years prior to 1678. He must be a master of the old Latin and the Norman French, in which most of the records were written. He must possess a thorough knowledge of heraldry, both as a science and as an art. These considerations, together with the intricacies involved in the mere mass of records in England alone, leaving the nations on the continent entirely out of the reckoning, show that the work of searching records in America, comparatively considered, is mere recreation. Foreign writers on the subject give credit to a number of Americans for good work in genealogy, but do not concede to any the title of professional. From their standpoint the correctness of their judgment cannot be questioned.

CHAPTER VII.

THE SOURCES OF INFORMATION.

"By an instinct of our nature, we all love to learn the places of our birth and the chief circumstances in the lives of our progenitors."—JAMES SAVAGE.

BEFORE beginning the search for genealogies, it is desirable that the worker have some knowledge of the authorities upon which he is to depend for his material. Obviously the various sources differ so widely in degree of fulness, and many of them vary so little from others of the same class that a detailed account of them all would be of small value. Throughout general literature there are numerous items of information varying in completeness from full statements to mere hints at isolated facts. The foregoing considerations make it necessary to say at the outset that any attempt to describe all the works the

genealogist may need to consult, or even to give the titles to all of them, would be futile, and no such stupendous task will be undertaken.

PURPOSES OF CLASSIFICATION.

Without a knowledge of the aim of a searcher, it is impossible to give specific directions that are valuable ; but a brief review may be given of the leading authorities, with information of their scope and contents, and such a classification of the whole as will be a general guide and economize the worker's time. This enumeration, therefore, may not include every serviceable book, yet its aim will not be the less effective—to help the searcher in such a way as to enable him to make a more intelligent use of the principal works he must consult than would be possible for him without such assistance. One may avoid confusion and feel well equipped for a profitable visit

to a library, however limited the opportunities or the time for the visit may be, if one has a general idea of the records to be found. After examination and use of the principal works, one will have experience sufficient to warrant success with records not mentioned in these pages.

AUTHORITIES CLASSIFIED.

The numerous authorities to be consulted may be considered under two classes:

I. PRIVATE RECORDS.

These are owned exclusively by the families most interested in them, and comprise Bible records, manuscripts containing family history or statistics, and descriptions of coats of arms.

II. PUBLIC RECORDS.

1. *Printed.*—Group (a). These consist of books, pamphlets, newspaper articles, charts,

etc., deposited in libraries for public use. Group (b). Inscriptions on monuments, gravestones, and tablets.

2. *Unprinted.*—These are in the custody of national, state, county, town, or church officers, as: Records of military, naval, or other official service; records of land transfers, of births, marriages, and deaths; copies of wills, deeds, and mortgages; parish and church registers.

BIBLE RECORDS.

Of private records, those kept in the family Bible are regarded as among the most reliable. Two facts contribute to general confidence in their accuracy, viz.: 1. The events, as births, deaths, and marriages were, in most instances, recorded soon after they occurred, presumably when fresh in mind. 2. Reverence for the book has inspired special care in making the family record. The custom of making the Bible the repository of

the family record seems to have prevailed for centuries. Among the earliest Bible records now to be found in this country is that in the family Bible of Richard Bartlett, who came to America from England before 1640, and settled at Newbury, Mass. The book is in the possession of a descendant of the Bartlett family at Chelsea, Mass. It is one of the famous "Breeches" Bibles, and contains the Book of Common Prayer, and the Sternhold and Hopkins metrical version of the Psalms, with the music. On a page at the end of the Prayer Book is the entry, in writing, that Richard Bartlett bought the book in 1612. Then follows the record of his family, the dates ranging from 1611 to 1625. This relic is evidence that the custom prevailed to some extent at that time, nearly three hundred years ago. The family record was written on a blank page. The preface to the book was written in 1578, and it

is, therefore, safe to reason that family records had been written in Bibles before this copy was printed, but whether as early as 1560—when the "Breeches" Bible, the first English translation, was made—it is impossible to say. The custom probably became quite general soon after King James's translation of the Scriptures was made. It is now so universal that few families are without a record in the family Bible. These records are rapidly fading, and are liable to loss or damage from accident. How easily they might be re-copied, and deposited in libraries and thus rescued from oblivion!

PRINTED PUBLIC RECORDS.

By far the greater number of the public records in print which the genealogist must consult are comprised in group "a." To convey a definite idea of their character, it will be convenient to separate them into three divisions, based on their scope.

1. *General.*—In this division are those works which cover territory wider than a state or a colony.

2. *Semi-local*, comprising colonial, state, or county records, printed either at private expense or by legislative appropriation.

3. *Local.*—Works containing information gathered from town, city, or church records.

1.—GENERAL AUTHORITIES.

THE NEWSPAPER.—For conveying information that meets the wants of widely-scattered seekers, perhaps next to family genealogies, the newspaper column contributes to the greatest number. It is only within a few years that the press has come to the aid of those interested in family history by publishing records of a general character. Within the past half century, however, a few local papers have printed birth, marriage, and death records of their respective towns, as: The Amos Otis Papers,

published by the *Barnstable Patriot* in 1861. These papers were revised and enlarged in 1885, and in 1888 they appeared in two volumes, with the title, "Genealogical Notes of Barnstable Families." Besides the records of families, these volumes contain valuable history setting forth the customs and mode of life of our Pilgrim forefathers; also birth and marriage records of the early settlers of Woodstock, Connecticut, printed in the *Putnam Patriot*, in 1888. Other papers interested in genealogy are the *Richmond Standard*, the *Long Island Traveler* (Southold), and the *Dover Enquirer*. These are mentioned as instances of interest manifested by the press in local records. There are several newspapers that regularly furnish genealogical information to the gratification of their readers. The most prominent among them are the *Boston Transcript*, the *New York Mail and Express*, and the *Chicago Inter-Ocean*. The scope of their work is

broad, both as to time and to the territory covered, and the half page of genealogical matter that appears every week affords many readers the knowledge they have long desired, but have not known how to obtain, or have not had the facilities for acquiring. The information is conveyed by means of questions and answers, the arranging of the material for publication being the work of a genealogist. The objection sometimes heard that newspaper genealogies lack arrangement; that they are desultory in character and are therefore, of little value is not made by those familiar with them. The benefits are fully acknowledged by all who seek information, and the helpful purpose of the press is apparent in the fact that participation in the work is open to all. Genealogists gladly contribute information that has cost them time, labor, and even money, to obtain. At a small cost, one with no library facilities whatever, may trace lin-

eages back to early settlers in this country, and make a surprisingly complete family record. The addresses of contributors and of inquirers are freely given, the small item of postage being all the expense entailed. By definite and persistent inquiry readers may obtain genealogical material which will have great future value, and may also be put into communication with contributors who are able to supply their wants. These journals have every facility for inspiring and increasing an interest in genealogy. Their influence is enlarging, and much may be hoped from them in teaching the higher conception of the subject; in emphasizing the breadth of its meaning; and in lifting the popular thought above family vain-glory.

Genealogists, in company with educators generally, have a work to do in correcting false impressions. All thinking persons recognize the value of an acquaintance with one's ancestry, and are convinced that the

more one knows of the possibilities and limitations of one's inherited faculties, the more effectively they may be employed; yet, as a result of superficial knowledge of the subject, there is in the minds of the irresolute and the half-educated, a notion that in the face of heredity, effort avails little in the business of life; a disposition to rest in limitations supposed to be insurmountable, or to make heredity a pretext for indolence; an idea that a sort of fatality lurks in one's natural endowments. Nothing can be farther from the truth than this. The evolution of the individual reveals conditions quite the opposite. Both heredity and environment are factors in the development of man, and in every step of the progress, strength may be imparted to weakness, and that strength increased in successive generations till a line of descent presents at its opposite poles inferiority and genius. The study of genealogy as a science is uplifting, and gives to

its votaries an enlarged and rational comprehension of the individual's relation to the past, the present, and the future, and inspires in them the liveliest sense of responsibility to the race, of which each individual is a unit.*

THE GENEALOGICAL REGISTER.

From the family genealogy and the newspaper columns, sources of information that

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* Although the plan of this book precludes anything more than the naming of works on the philosophy of heredity, the author, in passing, cannot refrain from suggesting a direction for the reader's thought. It would be the purpose, in a subsequent edition, to present an outline of a course in reading on this fascinating and fruitful topic; but here let it suffice to say that an admirable introduction to the subject is "Heredity and Christian Problems," by Amory H. Bradford. There are a number of scientific treatises, more or less technical in style; but Mr. Bradford makes a forcible application of the laws of heredity to the practical affairs of life by showing their operation—as combined with, and as acting contrary to, environment—in the education of the individual and in the development of ethical and Christian conceptions. Studies in this field are exceedingly fertile in genealogical inferences and deductions.

cover unlimited territory, we turn to what was the earliest reference book of purely genealogical material published in this country—a work by John Farmer, entitled: "A Genealogical Register of the First Settlers of New England." It was printed in 1829, and consisted of brief notices of government officials, and other prominent men, together with all the freemen of New England and Long Island who settled there between 1620 and 1692. It was in one volume, and gave the dates and places of arrival of New England immigrants. In comparison with what has been done since that time, the work Farmer did seems meager; but its difficulties were beyond our power to realize. He was, however, well qualified for it. As secretary of the New Hampshire Historical Society, he had compiled many valuable historical documents. His plan was to publish a biographical and genealogical dictionary to which the Register was to be an introduc-

tion. Unfortunately, failing health prevented his entering upon the larger work.

There are five classes of persons mentioned in the Register, as follows :

1. Magistrates and Ministers of the Gospel in all New England, 1620 to 1692.

2. Deputies and Representatives to the General Court of Massachusetts, 1634 to 1692.

3. Graduates of Harvard College and members of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company prior to 1662.

4. Freemen admitted to the Massachusetts Colony, from Colonial Records 1630 to 1662.

5. Names of all immigrants who came to the colonies prior to 1643.

We may imagine what trouble we should experience were we compelled to search manuscripts instead of the printed books that others have prepared for us, even for the few ancestors any one of us is able to trace. What must that work have been for Farmer,

who blazed his way through a tangle of confusion, and yet came out with an astonishingly correct list of the five classes of immigrants! No one acquainted with the obstacles that must have beset this pioneer, can take up his book and not feel a sense of indebtedness to him.

THE GENEALOGICAL DICTIONARY.

Farmer's perseverance could have but one effect, notwithstanding the fact that there were many in his day who regarded him as wasting time on work that could have no value. His book prompted investigations of great importance to the student, and when his work was cut short by his early death in 1838, there was one careful observer whose attention it had not escaped. James Savage, a graduate of Harvard College, a historian and writer of no mean abilities, saw in Farmer's plans the promise of future worth, and in 1844, he began systematic effort toward

carrying on the work. He toiled with unremitting diligence for twenty years, and in 1864 published his "Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England, Showing Three Generations of Those Who Came Before 1692." The work is in four volumes and mentions all who came to New England, of every station in life, giving the dates of their birth, marriage, and death, with brief biographical notice, designating those who were at any time representatives to the General Court, and including the names, and dates of birth, of all children born before the year 1700. Surnames are arranged alphabetically, and under each the Christian names are recorded, likewise in alphabetical order. Before consulting the work, the reader needs to know that the list of abbreviations, comprising upwards of a hundred and fifty, should be carefully examined, else he will be puzzled at first in the use of the books. When the work first appeared,

the author was sharply criticised for what seemed to be an arbitrary method of shortening the phraseology; but experience with the books soon proved that without this saving of space, the material would have filled at least two more volumes. There are no abbreviations of names of persons, excepting, possibly, "Winth" for Winthrop, and "Eliza" for Elizabeth. Although the fundamental idea of the Dictionary did not originate with the author, all admit that his industry and care in searching records have laid genealogists under deep obligation. He expanded the idea of another, yet none the less credit is due him for his industry. His work contains inaccuracies, but no more than could be expected considering his facilities. He erred in judgment in some instances, and, what is not in the least astonishing, investigations within the last thirty-five years have brought to light much that makes a revision of his work necessary. He

has been charged with unfairness by some whose researches have proved that his opinions were sometimes wrong; but the strongest acknowledgment of the value of his work is in the fact that he is the first authority consulted in the search for New England names. His is the work with which to begin, as it is a guide in tracing seventeenth century ancestors. Because of the merit of his work, genealogists will hail with satisfaction the enlarged and more complete volumes which are to result from a long promised revision. There is a cross index of Savage's Dictionary, prepared several years ago by O. P. Dexter, which is a distinct help.

"THE SPIRIT OF '76."

There is now in progress a work that will prove to be a revision and an enlargement of Dr. Savage's Dictionary, and one which is easily accessible as it goes on. "*The Spirit*

of '76," a well-known patriotic monthly journal, publishes in each issue eight pages of material taken from the Genealogical Dictionary, with additions. The design is to make corrections in that work from beginning to end, and to carry it forward through the next century, by references to all the works that contain genealogies of the names recorded. Thus the eighteenth century—a very difficult field—the bug-bear of the record searcher—is being thoroughly traversed by a competent genealogist who has the revision in charge. The value of the work has already proved itself, before even the first two letters of the alphabet are completed. Without doubt the pages will be bound for use as a separate genealogical book. It will be distinct from Savage's Dictionary, though based on that work, after the manner in which Savage planned his labors on Farmer's Register.

DURRIE'S INDEX.

Daniel S. Durrie, librarian of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, originated a plan to help in genealogical work, and carried it out by publishing a book that contained a vast deal of information in small space, known as Durrie's Index. It comprises a list of all the surnames of which genealogies have been printed, either in complete volumes or in fragments. Surnames appear alphabetically, and under each are given all the books or articles of every description, in which any genealogy of the name appears. Genealogical books are so numerous that a searcher finds Durrie a help quite indispensable, guiding one to every nook and corner where surnames have been treated. Since the death of Mr. Durrie, the work has been published by Munsell's Sons of Albany. There are some important references not included in the book, showing the need of revision. Since 1895, the date of the

latest edition, much good work has been done. The publishers are preparing a revision, which promises to increase the book to double its present size.

From Savage to Durrie is a short step. Once in possession of a name as given in Savage's work, the searcher turns to Durrie's Index to find where that name appears with its genealogy. The work of the "*Spirit of 76*" is, in effect, also a revision of Durrie. References to eighteenth century records are from Durrie's Index, with additions. Both Savage and Durrie are therefore included, with much more than those works contain.

A COLOSSAL INDEX.

A work, heralded by the press as giving promise of being more stupendous in proportion and scope than any that has yet appeared, is "The Newberry Genealogical Index," in preparation at the Newberry Library, Chicago. It is to be a "Key to the

Records of American Families." By its aid the searcher is assured of being directed to every family name that has been written genealogically, either partially or completely. The index claims to be a colossal Durrie.

AMERICAN ANCESTRY.

In 1887, Munsell's Sons, with a knowledge of the needs of genealogists, set into operation a plan by which those who are most interested in lineages could contribute to the help of searchers in general. In that year they began the publication of a work entitled: "American Ancestry," designed to give "The Name and Descent, in the Male Line of Americans Whose Ancestors Settled in the United States previous to the Declaration of Independence, 1776." The eleventh volume (1898) is the last published. Volume I. is confined to residents of the city of Albany. Volume II. includes citizens of Columbia County, N. Y. The other volumes

are as wide in their scope as they can be made, covering the entire United States. Lines of descent are not limited to the time of the Revolution; many of them extend back to the emigrant ancestors. No charge is made by the publishers for printing a lineage. The idea of such a work is an excellent one, affording the means of preserving what might otherwise never find its way to print. It would seem, however, that the value of the work might be enhanced if its scope were extended to include the other lineages besides the male line, and if it also provided for a record of the descent of women as well as of men. These books sometimes save much labor. If the searcher can connect with one of these lines of descent, his work back of the point where the lineages meet has been done for him. He may sometimes obtain here more information concerning a particular ancestor than he has found elsewhere. He should, however, be

careful to verify the record. The facts for these books were furnished by the individuals whose lineages appear, hence some allowance should be made for possible exaggeration. Occasionally a little more is claimed than can be justified by history. These books, however, are of great service, and their general accuracy cannot be questioned. They afford a special help in that they furnish lineages of contemporaries, thereby enabling genealogists, or those directly interested, to compare lineages traced to a common ancestor. All Americans should feel an interest in these books, as, by means of such records the history of the origin and kinship of the American people is vividly portrayed.

AN EARLY NEW ENGLAND SOCIETY.

In 1844 a number of public-spirited citizens of Boston, believing in the imperative necessity of collecting and carefully preserv-

ing genealogical and historical information concerning the people and institutions of New England, and fearing the total destruction of the ancient landmarks that were to be seen in almost every New England town, organized themselves into a corporate body to be known as "The New England Historic Genealogical Society." In 1847 they published the first volume of their great work, "The New England Historic Genealogical Register," and the volumes have appeared regularly to the present time. It is issued quarterly, the numbers of each year being bound in one volume. The fifty one volumes are a monument to the invaluable work of that society. Its labors still continue, and every item of history, biography, or genealogy finds a welcome in the columns of this genealogical repository. Volume X. contains a general index of the first ten volumes; and Volume XV. has one for the next five volumes. All who have records of

New England people, especially of the early generations, should see to it that they find their way to the safe keeping of this society. Such records condensed to occupy limited space are printed by the society free of cost to the contributor. Each volume of the Register has an index of subjects, places, and names of persons. To facilitate reference to the entire series, a comprehensive index is in preparation. There is great need of such a reference to this store-house of genealogical material. The extensive library of the society at its headquarters, 18 Somerset Street, Boston, is a mine for the antiquarian, and well repays a visit.

EARLY PASSENGERS TO AMERICA.

In 1860 appeared a book entitled: "The Founders of New England," a compilation in a small volume, by Samuel G. Drake, comprising the names and ages of the passengers

to America in the early part of the seventeenth century, giving the ports from which they sailed, the dates of their embarkation, and their destination. These lists were copied from records in England, and are considered authentic. They shed much light on the origin of our emigrant ancestors.

In 1874 John C. Hotten took up Drake's plan with a view to a more systematic, thorough, and extended search in the records of England. Being a resident of that country and a genealogist, he had the best facilities for the work. His book was entitled: "Original Lists of Persons of Quality." Here are the names of all passengers (of whom records are preserved) from England to America before 1700. Hotten treated Drake's work as Savage did that of Farmer, and as "The Spirit of '76" is treating Savage.

To make clear the value of Hotten's book it will be necessary to indulge in some repetition. During the great exodus from Eng-

land of the Puritans, 1630 to 1640, many in their anxiety and haste to leave the mother country took passage in the first ship that afforded them the opportunity, often trusting good fortune to carry them to the desired haven. These facts explain what appears prominent in Hotten's book, viz. : that many emigrants reached New England and Virginia by a very roundabout route. Among the ports of destination were the Bermuda Islands, sometimes called "Somers Islands," and sometimes "Bomodes" or "Bormodes." Antiqua, The Barbadoes, and St. Christophers, in the West Indies, were also objective points. This explains what often puzzles the searcher. Many lineages may be traced to ancestors who seem to have come into New England at a time when it is known that few, if any, emigrants came from England. The explanation of their appearance is often found in this book. They sailed for these islands, which early came

into England's possession, and when opportunity favored, they reached what was doubtless their original destination, New England or Virginia. There is little difficulty in tracing such settlers, as the book is well indexed.

DESCENT FROM KINGS.

In 1882 there appeared a large volume compiled by Charles H. Browning. It bears the alluring title, "Americans of Royal Descent." Mr. Browning has, with earnest labor and great patience, traced lines of descent from kings and queens of all nations, to persons who have married Americans. One need only trace a lineage to such a marriage to connect with the royal descent. The book is now in its third edition. Errors are unavoidable in a work so difficult, and this is not without its share. Its high claims give it great popularity. It is thoroughly indexed.

DESCENT FROM BARONS.

Mr. Browning has recently (1898) published a very attractive volume, entitled: "The Magna Charta Barons and Their American Descendants." It contains the history of Magna Charta; a copy of that celebrated document; a chapter on "Runnimede"; the names of the Barons who were sureties for the observance of the Magna Charta, with their relationship and biographies. Then follow the pedigrees of Americans who are descended from those sureties, that is, this part of the volume is practically a year book of "The Order of Runnimede." By connecting lineages with individuals in the lines of descent, others may derive benefit from Mr. Browning's work.

RECORDS OF ELIGIBILITY.

A third valuable work has been suggested by Mr. Browning, to be published under the

title, "Authenticated American Pedigrees." It is proposed to print the lineages or proofs of eligibility of the members of the various hereditary societies. These manuscripts are now kept in the archives of the societies, and hence are not accessible for general use. Should the members furnish copies of their lineages, several volumes of these records can be printed. The year books furnish out lines of lineages, but the proposed series will be an accurate record of details. The mode of getting the information somewhat resembles that of the "American Ancestry," but the work will be a more reliable compilation.

It should be said here that the Daughters of the American Revolution are publishing their "Lineage Books," several numbers having appeared.

THE AMERICAN GENEALOGIST.

This is the title of a book published in 1868 by William Whitmore. He describes the printed family genealogies, giving briefly their scope and the claims that are made for them. His work is in fact a bibliography. One may here ascertain whether a given family, or any particular branch of it, has a printed genealogy. It is also helpful indirectly, as it is often an advantage to know where not to search. The genealogies mentioned are arranged in the order of their publication. The first three editions contained valuable descriptions of the genealogies mentioned; but the last edition, published by Munsell's Sons, lacks that important feature. The Albany publishers have simply added titles of works, but have provided little description and no notes. The last edition is not an improvement of the work, but rather the opposite.

THE MAGNALIA.

The Rev. Cotton Mather (1663-1738) wrote a biographical record of the New England clergy from 1620 to 1698, known as "Mather's Magnalia." The information is probably as reliable as any that could have been obtained in his time. It is in two volumes, and, though not distinctly genealogical, it aids one in forming an estimate of the early ministers. They left a numerous posterity. Some prominent clergymen are omitted; but the main facts in the lives of those mentioned are clearly set forth, and show the influence which the clergy was able to exert on the people. The peculiar origin of the New England town, and the history of its growth, make the "Magnalia" a valuable book to the genealogist. Although the author may have been incorrect in some details, his biographies faithfully picture the relations of the pastor to his people. In the early migrations he led his congregation to

new fields. The church (or meeting house, as they preferred to call it) was the center of the town, both geographically and politically. The conditions of their settlement and their purpose in settling at all made the church congregation the nucleus of organization. The genealogist should not forget that, as a student of history, he should welcome whatever tends to broaden his knowledge of the past; and the "Magnalia," notwithstanding its defects, is one of the helps to that result.

MORTON'S MEMORIAL.

Another valuable history that interests the genealogist is "New England's Memorial," by Nathaniel Morton, published in 1669, and devoted to the prominent men of New England, with special attention to the Plymouth Colony. Like the "Magnalia," it is of service chiefly for early biography and history.

MISCELLANEOUS WORKS.

"American Family Antiquity," by Albert Wells, traces the lineages of some of America's most famous men and contains much valuable information. Mr. Josiah G. Leach has recently published memorials of a half-dozen prominent families—Reading, Howell, Yerkes, Watts, Latham, and Elkins. Some of Mr. Waters's researches in wills at Somerset House have been printed in three small books, also another volume in company with J. A. Emmerton. This work is too valuable to be allowed to discontinue; yet it is a deplorable fact that means have not been furnished sufficient to pay the expenses of the search.

Volume I. of Mr. Thomas A. Glenn's work, "Some Colonial Mansions and Those Who Lived in Them," has recently appeared. It treats of Virginia, Maryland, and New York, giving genealogies of the families noticed.

COLONIAL OFFICERS.

E. W. Pierce published, in 1881, a small volume entitled "Pierce's Colonial Lists," comprising civil, military, and professional lists of Plymouth and Rhode Island colonies from 1621 to 1700.

BIBLIOGRAPHIES.

In 1896 Mr. Thomas A. Glenn published a volume: "A List of Some American Genealogies which Have Been Printed in Book Form." It appeared first in parts in the *Literary Era*. It is a bibliography of American genealogy, arranged alphabetically, and contains a short statement of the scope of each work.

A "Check List of American Local History" was printed from the bulletins of the Boston Public Library, in 1876, by Frederic B. Perkins. There is also a catalogue of family histories in the same library, by

Knapp. In 1889 Mr. A. P. C. Griffin published an "Index of Articles on American Local History," and in 1896 an "Index of the Literature of American Local History." There is a "Hand-list of American Genealogies" in the New York Public Library, 1897. The Pennsylvania Historical Society (Philadelphia) has prepared an analytical card catalogue of genealogy.

ESSAYS ON GENEALOGY.

Some valuable papers have from time to time been read before genealogical and historical societies. The following are among the most interesting: In Wisconsin, in 1862, "The Utility of the Study of Genealogy," by Daniel S. Durrie; in New York, in 1877, "Family Records, Their Importance and Value," by Dr. William F. Holcombe; Mr. Charles Sotheran's paper on "American Genealogy" was printed for the *American Bibliopolist.* (There is probably but one copy of it

accessible. The paper was cut and pasted in a book, which may be found in the Lenox Branch of the New York Public Library); in Connecticut, 1895, "Genealogical Researches in Libraries," by Mr. Charles K. Bolton; in Boston, before the New England Historic Genealogical Society, in 1866, Prof. William Chauncey Fowler, of Durham, Conn., read a paper on the character of Charles Chauncey, in which he described five qualifications of the genealogist.

2.—SEMI-LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

It is not the intention here to furnish a bibliography of this class of authorities, as that has been done; but rather to group them in a way that will be helpful. Neither will any works of this class be considered that contain records beyond the limits of the Thirteen Original Colonies. Not that the States founded since the Revolution are without genealogical interest; on the contrary,

many of them have historical societies that appreciate the value of such information, and their works will in time be in great demand. By a liberal use of the modern means of printing and transcribing their records, they are doing far more than was possible in the eighteenth century. As the purpose of this book is to help in the tracing of ancestors who lived within the first two hundred years of our country's settlement, there is little in the newer States that is serviceable, most of their history being within the memory of men now living. But though the newer States are not included within our field, this grouping of the authorities is equally applicable to their material.

Some of the works in this class are biographical and contain little or no genealogy in the form of family records. They have value, however, as an accurate biography of an ancestor is precisely what one would de-

sire. The "Collections" of State and local historical societies and the records of colonies are made up in great part of the biography of individuals, portraying the career of public men. To those whose ancestors were prominent, these books are of much importance.

THE LIBRARIES.

Many of the works enumerated under the head of General Authorities could, without great expense, be included in the library of the genealogist, but those in the class now under consideration are far too numerous for a private collection. Fortunately, the public libraries supply the need, and in them may be found bibliographies in detail, and, what is better, the books themselves.

The genealogist receives at these institutions the fullest encouragement and assistance. The great store-houses of treasure, such as the Boston Public Library, the Pub-

lic Library and the Newberry Library, both in Chicago, the Astor and Lenox branches of the New York Public Library, and others, too many to enumerate, are forcible reminders of public benefactors whose wealth was administered with true philanthropy. To the memory of these men the American people owe a debt that can never be paid. No one can avail himself of the advantages of these libraries, even in the slightest degree, without realizing a deep sense of gratitude and responsibility.

By paying a small fee for membership, one may gain access to other repositories of genealogy, where courteous attention is paid to the searcher's needs. These are found in all the larger cities, particularly in the east, such as the Long Island Historical Society, the New York Historical Society, and the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society.

COLLECTIONS OF HISTORICAL SOCIETIES.

The publications of the historical societies cover a wide list of subjects. To the Thirteen Original Colonies Maine and Vermont should be added, to include the States containing the records most valuable to the genealogist. It will be well here to remind the reader of historical facts which one should keep in mind, viz.: that Maine and New Hampshire were, in the matter of record-keeping, included in Massachusetts in the early years, and that what is now Vermont was a bone of contention between New York and New Hampshire down to the time of the Revolution. Some of the early information concerning Maine and Vermont is to be found in the records of the colonies by which they were controlled. Pemaquid, Me., was under the control of New York, from 1635 to 1691; as also at the same date, were Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard.

The latter islands were known as Dukes County. Southold, L. I., was at first, a part of the New Haven Colony. All of these fifteen states have historical societies, and of each society the name of the state is a part of the title. In all the states there are local societies, especially in the larger cities; and in some of them not a few towns have such societies. In addition to the State Historical Society, Virginia has the Southern Historical Society, with a branch in North Carolina. The towns of Massachusetts are especially enterprising in this respect. Much of the work in all the state societies is in large volumes. Besides these, there are pamphlets, monographs, small bound books of reports, all printed under the auspices of the societies. In the states taken together these smaller works number among the thousands. The number in the different states varies, Massachusetts leading, with more than fifty large volumes by the

State Society, not reckoning the minor works. The whole subject of historical society material has been conveniently tabulated under the auspices of the American Historical Society (Washington, D. C.,) in a volume that includes state, county, town, and city societies, compiled by Appleton P. C. Griffin, entitled: "Bibliography of American Historical Societies." Here are enumerated the works of every conceivable title, arranged by states, in alphabetical order. Reference to this book is indispensable to one who would become acquainted with these valuable contributions. They contain records of public proceedings in which our ancestors took a more or less prominent part. The bibliography referred to gives a succinct statement of the contents of the volumes.

COLONIAL RECORDS.

These publications are perhaps of equal value with those just described, but they differ from them in that they are issued not by societies, but by states or colonies, and are in the true sense, public records. They appear under different titles, as follows: Colonial Records; State Records; Public Records; Provincial Papers; State Papers; Archives; and Colonial History. Virginia's volumes appear as "Calendar of State Papers," and those of Vermont are entitled: "Governor and Council." Among the Connecticut volumes are two of "New Haven Records." The different titles under which the New York records appear are: "Calendar of New York Historical Manuscripts;" "Documents relating to the Colonial History of the State of New York;" "Documentary History of New York;" "Report of the Adjutant General;" and "Archives of New

York." In Massachusetts there are "Plymouth Colony Records;" and "Massachusetts Bay Colony Records." The volumes of Pennsylvania are entitled "Archives" and "Colonial Records." Those of North Carolina are "Colonial Records;" and "State Records." Maryland and also New Jersey records are "Archives."

No difficulty will be experienced in finding the volumes, as those of any given state or colony appear under one or more of the above titles.

MILITARY RECORDS.

Some of the states have printed their military rolls. Perhaps no other records are so frequently consulted as the lists of soldiers in the Revolution and the Colonial Wars. The rolls covering the widest territory are those of pensioners. Letters of the Secretary of War, in one volume, 1820, contain the complete pension list at that date,

giving the names of pensioners by states. A second letter from the same office, in 1835, is in three volumes. A Census of Pensioners for Revolutionary or Military Services appeared in 1840. Records of the Revolutionary War, one volume, by W. T. R. Saffell, contains the names of officers and privates; British Officers Serving in the American Revolution, one volume, by W. C. Ford; also British Officers serving in America, 1754 to 1774; Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army, from 1775 to 1783, one volume, by F. B. Heitman.

Connecticut.—Historical Collection of the Part Sustained by Connecticut During the War of the Revolution, by Royal R. Hinman; The Record of Connecticut Men in the Military and Naval Service During the War of the Revolution, 1775 to 1783. This is a valuable compilation in one volume, well indexed, and contains: the Lexington Alarm List, by towns; Revolutionary

Soldiers by companies; Revolutionary Pensioners of Connecticut, in 1818, by states in which the pensioners resided at that time; Invalid pensioners living in 1833; and Pensioners under the Act of 1832.

Maine.—Military Operations in Eastern Maine and Nova Scotia During the Revolution—Notes of Col. John Allan; Falmouth Neck (now Portland) in the Revolution.

The records of Massachusetts should be consulted for Maine soldiers.

Maryland.—Orderly Book; Maryland Loyalist's Regiment, 1778, by Capt. C. Jones.

Massachusetts.—The state is printing the Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolutionary War. Four large volumes have been issued, which furnish minute information, and, from the fact that the fourth letter of the alphabet is not yet completed, it appears that there will be a large number of volumes. A valuable

compilation is Mr. Bodge's Soldiers in King Philip's War. The men named in the volume were residents of Massachusetts.

New Hampshire.— Of the State Papers, volumes XIV, XV, XVI and XVII are records of Revolutionary soldiers. In other volumes are lists of soldiers in the French and Indian War. There is a small book by G. C. Gilmore, containing the names of New Hampshire soldiers in the battle of Bennington.

New Jersey.— Officers and Men of New Jersey in the Revolutionary War, one volume. New Jersey Continental Line at Yorktown, 1781.

New York.—Volume I of the Archives contains Revolutionary lists, including many from what is now Vermont; New York in the Revolution as Colony and State, by James A. Roberts, Comptroller; Muster Rolls of New York Provincial Troops, 1755 to 1764; Report of the State Historian,

Volume I. New York Soldiers in the Colonial Wars.

North Carolina.— Moore's History of North Carolina; Schenck's North Carolina in 1780 and '81; A Defense of Revolutionary History of North Carolina, etc., by J. S. Jones; Davis's History of North Carolina Troops, etc.

Pennsylvania.—The second series of the Archives contains rolls of Revolutionary soldiers.

Rhode Island.— Spirit of '76 in Rhode Island, by Benjamin Cowell, and Revolutionary Defenses in Rhode Island, by E. Field, contain war records of that state, as also do Volumes VII and VIII of Rhode Island Records. The General Assembly has provided for printing the record of officers and soldiers in the Revolutionary and Colonial Wars, and the work is now in progress.

South Carolina.—The Charleston Year Books; South Carolina Records of the Revo-

lutionary War; History of the Invasion of the Carolinas 1780–1781, by D. Schenck; Colonial and Revolutionary History of Upper South Carolina, compiled from books now out of print.

Virginia.—In the Virginia Magazine of History and Biography (4 vols., Richmond) there are records of Virginia troops in the Revolution, and also in the French and Indian War. They are published by the Virginia Historical Society.

GENEALOGICAL MAGAZINES AND PERIODICALS.

This list comprises the leading publications. Although they are not all now current, they are helps to valuable material. They are named by States in alphabetical order, after the first three, which are of broader scope.

The American Genealogical Record (containing genealogies of eastern families).

The American Monthly Magazine, published

by the National Society D. A. R., Washington, D. C.

Old Northwest Genealogical Quarterly.

Connecticut Quarterly, Hartford, Conn. It is now a monthly and its title is The Connecticut Magazine.

The Maine Genealogist and Biographer, Augusta.

The Maine Historical and Genealogical Recorder, Portland.

Bangor Historical Magazine. At the eighth volume the name is changed to Maine Historical Magazine.

Old Times, North Yarmouth, Maine.

Southern Magazine, Baltimore.

Antiquarian Papers, Ipswich; and also the Hammatt Papers of Ipswich.

Historical Register, Medford.

Essex Antiquarian, Salem.

Essex Institute, Salem. Vol. I. appeared in 1859 (35 vols.) Very valuable for early New England; also the Bulletin.

Essex Historical Collections.

The Genealogist's Note Book; a weekly, containing "Helpful Ideas to Genealogists; by Eben Putnam, Danvers.

American Historical Register, Boston. Valuable.

Putnam's Historical Magazine, Salem. It began as Salem Press Historical and Genealogical Record. Valuable.

Dedham Historical Register, Dedham, Mass.

Genealogical Advertiser, Cambridge, Mass.

The Mayflower Quarterly, Boston.

Essex County Historical and Genealogical Register, Ipswich.

Old Ipswich. A magazine devoted chiefly to vital statistics of that town.

Granite Monthly, Concord, N. H. (26 vols.)

New York Genealogical and Biographical Record, New York.

Spirit of '76, monthly, New York.

Notes and Queries by W. H. Egle, Central Pennsylvania (several volumes), in four series.

The Historical Journal, Northwestern Pennsylvania, Williamsport.

The American Genealogist, Philadelphia, by T. A. Glenn.

Literary Era, Chester County, Pa.

The Pennsylvania Magazine, 24 vols.

The American Genealogical Queries, Newport, R. I., 1887-1889.

Narragansett Historical Register, Hamilton, R. I.

Magazine of New England History, Newport, R. I.

Rhode Island Historical Magazine, Newport. At Volume V. the name was changed to Newport Historical Magazine.

William and Mary College Quarterly Historical Magazine. It began 1892 and contains genealogies of leading families of Virginia. Williamsburg, Va.

The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, by the Virginia Historical Society, Richmond.

Virginia Historical Register (6 vols.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

Connecticut.—Roll of State Officers and Members of the General Assembly, 1776 to 1781 (one volume.)

Catalogue of the names of the First Puritan Settlers in the Colony of Connecticut, by R. R. Hinman. (Indexed.) The compiler began a new list of them alphabetically, but completed only one volume.

Early Connecticut Marriages, from church records, by towns (3 vols.), compiled by F. W. Bailey. Other volumes will be issued.

Delaware.—Scharf's History of Delaware (2 vols.) 1609 to 1888.

History of Original Settlements on the Delaware, by Benjamin Ferris.

Annals of the Swedes on the Delaware, by J. C. Clay.

The history of Delaware from the earliest times, as recorded by Francis Vincent, contains an account of the early settlements.

Georgia.—The Salzburgers and their Descendants, by P. A. Strobel.

Memories of Georgia (2 large vols.) by the Southern Historical Association.

Maine.—York Deeds. (several vols.)

Probate Records of Lincoln County, 1760 to 1800.

Maine Wills, 1640 to 1760, compiled by W. M. Sargent.

Saco Valley Settlements and Families, by G. T. Ridlon.

Maryland.—The Old Brick Churches of Maryland, by Helen W. Ridgely.

The Garrison Church, by Ethan Allen.

Founders of Maryland, by Neill.

Massachusetts. — Whitmore's Civil List, 1630 to 1774.

Early Massachusetts Marriages (one vol.)

Worcester County, by towns, compiled by F. W. Bailey. Other volumes are to follow.

Historical and Genealogical Researches in the Merrimac Valley.

Report on the Public Records of Massachusetts, by the Commissioner of Records, Carroll D. Wright. Valuable, showing condition of the records.

History of the Connecticut Valley (in Massachusetts). Two volumes.

Persons whose names were changed in Massachusetts, 1780 to 1892 (one vol.) This is of special value in ascertaining correct names.

New Hampshire.—Collections Historical and Biographical, by Farmer and Moore.

New Jersey.—Cooley's Genealogy of Early Settlers in Trenton and Ewing (1 vol.)

Littell's Genealogy of the First Settlers of the Passaic Valley (1 vol.)

Chambers's Early Germans in New Jersey (1 vol.)

Wick's History of the Oranges (1 vol.)

The Story of an Old Farm, by Mellick.

History and Genealogy of Fenwick's Colony, by T. Shourds.

The Founders and Builders of the Oranges, by H. Whittemore.

New York.—Calendar of Land Papers, 1642 to 1803.

Persons for Whom Marriage Licenses were Issued previous to 1784, with supplement.

New Netherland Register, 1626 to 1674, (a list of all citizens) compiled by E. B. O'Callaghan. Early Long Island Wills (Suffolk County), 1691 to 1703.

Calendar of Wills at the Court of Appeals and with the County Clerk, at Albany, 1626 to 1836, compiled by B. Fernow, and published by the Society of Colonial Dames.

New Yorkers of the XIX Century, by Mrs. J. K. Van Rensselaer, has gene-

alogies of twenty families. Indexed.

Wills of the Smith Families of New York and Long Island, 1664 to 1794.

Westchester County Wills, 1664 to 1784, by W. S. Pelletreau.

Long Island Genealogies, compiled by M. P. Bunker, more than sixty families.

Weeks's Prominent Families of New York (city) traces representatives of more than six hundred families.

North Carolina.—Wheeler's Reminiscences and Memories of North Carolina.

Pennsylvania.—Egle's Pennsylvania Genealogies, Scotch-Irish and German.

The Provincial Councillors of Pennsylvania, between 1733 and 1776, by C. P. Keith.

Chambers's Irish and Scotch Settlers of Pennsylvania.

Names of Thirty Thousand Immigrants to Pennsylvania, 1727 to 1776, by I. D. Rupp.

Names of Persons who took the Oath of Allegiance to the State of Pennsylvania, 1777 to 1789, compiled by T. Westcott.

Men of Mark in the Cumberland Valley, Pennsylvania, 1776 to 1876, by A. Nevin; also the Churches of the Valley, by the same author.

Annals of Buffalo Valley, 1755 to 1855, by J. B. Linn.

Historical Collection Relating to Gwynedd by H. M. Jenkins.

Merion in the Welsh Tract, by T. A. Glenn. Valuable.

Families of the Wyoming Valley, by George B. Kulp. Valuable.

History of the Big Spring Presbyterian Church, Newville, Pa., by G. E. Swope, contains information of the Scotch-Irish.

Rhode Island.—Vital Records of Rhode Island, by J. N. Arnold, 1636 to 1850 (10 vols)

The Fones Record (Narragansett), by J. N. Arnold; Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island, comprising records of three generations of those who came before 1690. This is a work of great value, compiled by J. O. Austin. The same author published Ancestry of Thirty-three Rhode Islanders Born in the 18th Century; also One Hundred and Sixty Allied Families.

South Carolina.—Charleston Year Books. History of Orangeburg County to 1775, by A. S. Salley; Inscriptions in the Unitarian Cemetery, Charleston; Reminiscences of St. Stephen's Parish, Charleston, by S. Dubose; The Annals of Newberry, by O'Neall.

Vermont.—The Vermont Historical Gazetteer, a history of the towns of the State (5 large volumes). It was compiled by Abby M. Hemenway; but the state was not completed.

Virginia.—Old King William Homes and Families, by P. N. Clarke.

Old Churches, Ministers, and Families of Virginia, by Bishop William Meade (2 vols.), with index in separate volume.

Vestry Book of Henrico Parish, by R. A. Brock.

Virginia Genealogies : Glassell Family and Fifteen Others, by Rev. H. E. Hayden; Virginia Cousins, by G. B. Goode, is a genealogy of the Goode family, but is in reality much more, as the index to the book is a "Key to Southern Genealogy," being an index to all the works consulted by the author, comprising more than thirty genealogies of southern families.

Reminiscences of St. Stephen's Parish, by S. Dubose.

History of St. George's Parish, by Rev. P. Slaughter.

Register of Christ Church, Middlesex, Virginia, 1653 to 1812.

Bristol Parish Register, 1720 to 1789, by Chamberlayne.

Bristol Parish Register, by P. Slaughter.

History of St. Mark's Parish and Some Old Families.

Sketches and Recollections of Lynchburg.

In Virginia the parish, having the church as its religious center, corresponded to the town in early New England, with its settlement around a church.

COUNTY HISTORIES.

The histories of counties do not contain much genealogy, and are unsatisfactory in their lack of index. Usually they are by towns, alphabetically arranged. The officials of the county and the early settlers are usually recorded. The counties of the older New England States—notably Connecticut and Massachusetts, have been thoroughly written. Some of the county histories that have more or less genealogies are of

Barnstable, Mass.; New London, Conn.; Augusta, Va.; Suffolk, Westchester, Albany, Monroe, Cattaraugus, and Kings, N. Y.; Bucks and Chester, Pa.; and Old Kent, Maryland. For particulars of some of the above counties, consult Early Wills of Long Island, Pearson's Genealogies of the First Settlers of Albany, Bolton's Westchester County, Bergen's Early Settlers of Kings County, Freeman's History of Cape Cod, Munsell's Collections on the History of Albany (4 vols.), and Suffolk Deeds, Mass. (9 vols.)

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

VITAL RECORDS.—Books containing statistics of births, marriages and deaths are important aids. Many towns and cities have published such records. Among those most complete are: Boston (in the Record Commissioner's Reports, including Roxbury and Dorchester), Concord, Dedham, Brain-

tree, Rehoboth, Woburn, Watertown, Canton, and Hanover, in Massachusetts; Providence, R. I.; Simsbury, Windsor, Coventry, and Sharon, Conn. Vital records are often printed in town histories and in magazines. Many churches have published such records; for example, the Old Dutch Church of Kingston, Ulster County, N. Y., 1660 to 1810.

TOWN RECORDS.

These are sources of valuable information. The town officers, as: selectmen, constables, Representatives to the General Court, and those in attendance at the various public meetings, are named; and the methods of transacting public business are minutely described. In these books, one may find traces of men who were comparatively obscure, but who did their little part in building the state. Here are records that afford much more interesting reading than

one would suppose who had not examined them. Dedham, Braintree, Manchester, Medfield, Salem, and many other Massachusetts towns have valuable records, and towns in some other states are no less interesting.

TOWN HISTORIES.

Histories of towns are legion. They are, for the most part, prepared with care. The reader comes into a closer contact with the common people as portrayed in these books, than is possible with any other class of genealogical works. The authors of these histories have been, in most instances, long residents of the towns of which they write. The men most familiar with the inhabitants, particularly of a rural town, and therefore, the most competent to write their history, are clergymen and physicians. Their occupations give them a knowledge that especially fits them for the work, and some of them

have performed this task with results that evince an unselfishness and a love of labor for the good of others highly praiseworthy. Many town histories contain genealogies that add much to their value, while some are of genealogies alone. It would be a task quite hopeless in a book like this to name all the towns, the histories of which have been written fully and with ability. Some have suffered in the hands of well-meaning but poorly equipped writers, and many have not yet found the hand that can set forth their history. It is a deplorable fact that in some towns the citizens are wanting in public spirit, and are too indifferent to furnish the means or even the encouragement to those who would gladly do the work. Nevertheless, the genealogist has in these books a field of exceeding interest. Among works of this class worthy of particular mention because of the great labor involved in their preparation, are: Bradford's "History of

Plimouth Plantation;" Davis's Landmarks of Plymouth; Stiles's History of Ancient Windsor. Thomas Bellows Wyman labored forty years on his Genealogies and Estates of Charlestown (two volumes). In addition to the genealogies, he traced the records of transfers of real estate of Charlestown, which at first comprised what has since been divided into seven or eight towns. Familiarity with that great work will convince one that its author deserved the fullest commendation for zeal. Not less imposing as a monument of industry is Bond's Genealogies and History of Watertown. The broad view of genealogy held by some of these authors, in spite of the vast amount of detail which they were compelled to consider, is a marvel, and proves them to have been genealogists of a high order.

CEMETERY RECORDS.

Inscriptions on tombstones, monuments, and tablets are inestimably valuable. Many cemeteries, particularly in the older states, are fast falling into decay. The land should be re-surveyed to show the boundary lines of every graveyard, and a plat should be made, indicating the location of every grave. In the plat should appear, in its proper place, a copy of each inscription on tombstone or monument. Some attention has been given to the printing of inscriptions in book form, but the method is not sufficiently complete. Here is a work for the hereditary patriotic societies, and it should be done before time, vandalism, and the tread of civilization have obliterated all trace of the burial places of our ancestors. Lovers of genealogical research are not ancestor-worshipers, but they revere the memory of the founders of their country for what has been

wrought in *this* fair world, and believe that what time will eventually destroy should be so renewed as to perpetuate that which eternity itself cannot efface.

UNPRINTED PUBLIC RECORDS.

Records in the custody of state, Probate Court, county and town officers are valuable to the genealogist. Wills and land records are important in determining ancestry. No record can compare with a will as a means of ascertaining the children of a testator; and deeds sometimes contain positive statements or strong implications of relationship. It is often necessary to communicate with officials for information. Vital statistics may be obtained from town clerks in New England, excepting the early records in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Maine, which were at the county seats. Outside of New England vital statistics are on parish registers and at county seats. In Pennsyl-

vania and New York many early marriages were recorded with the State Secretary. The early Long Island wills were recorded at New York. In Connecticut one or more towns comprise a probate district, the center of which may or may not be a county seat. Clerks of Probate (or Surrogate) Courts furnish information contained in wills. The court records of Massachusetts from 1700 to 1750 included Maine. The Adjutant-General, either at Washington, D. C., or at the capital of a state, is in charge of military records. Information is easily obtained from custodians of public records, and the uniform courtesy of town and parish clerks, Adjutants General, and clerks of Probate Courts is well-known. Statistics in their possession are gladly furnished and are reliable.

When writing for copies of records one should not forget that the custodians are intrusted with public business, and that the

time they give to research must be other than that assigned to public duty. Records are open to the inspection of all who would consult them in person, but correspondence with an inquirer compels an official to give time and labor, for which he is entitled to remuneration. Enquirers who seem not to appreciate the conditions, sometimes exhibit impatience at their failure to receive replies to questions. An offer of reasonable compensation will always insure attention and will often be rewarded with information worth many times its cost. The following table shows where wills and land records may be found in the various states.

WHERE RECORDS MAY BE FOUND.

WILLS.	LAND RECORDS.

WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Delaware (1678-1800).	Delaware (1678-1785).
Maryland (at Annapolis till 1775).	
New Jersey (till 1800).	New Jersey (till 1800).

AT COUNTY SEATS.

Connecticut (usually).	Delaware (after 1785).
Delaware (after 1800).	Georgia.
Georgia.	Maine.
Maine.	Maryland.
Maryland (since 1775).	Massachusetts.
Massachusetts.	New Hampshire.
New Hampshire.	New Jersey (after 1800).
New Jersey (after 1800).	New York.
New York.	North Carolina.
North Carolina.	Pennsylvania.
Pennsylvania.	Sonth Carolina.
South Carolina.	Virginia.
Vermont.	
Virginia.	

WITH TOWN CLERKS.

Connecticut (occasionally).	Connecticut.
Rhode Island.	Rhode Island.
	Vermont.

CHAPTER VIII.

RECORDS IN THE MOTHER COUNTRY.

"Thus it happens that out of savages unable to count up to the number of their fingers, and speaking a language containing only nouns and verbs, arise at length our Newton's and Shakespeare's."—HERBERT SPENCER.

ALTHOUGH the above truth was uttered by the great philosopher in illustration of the possibilities of the law of evolution (or genealogy) as applied to man, it bears, by implication, directly upon the subject of this chapter, in suggesting the stupendous strides civilization has made in England, and the consequent increasing intricacy of the written evidences of race development.

Some comparison has already been suggested between the mass of genealogical

material in England and the relatively small accumulation in this country. Work in America is in reality mere play as compared with labor in the labyrinth of documents in the city of London alone. The uninitiated American in search of ancestry in England is overwhelmed in confusion at the very threshold; yet some of our countrymen, having traced their ancestry to the shores of the Atlantic, have persisted in following back the course of emigration till they have, in a measure, gratified that wish possessed by us all—to know whence they came, and how their lines of descent have threaded their way down from the far past.

HELPS TO FOREIGN RECORDS.

The required help for this work is not wanting. There are books containing directions, without which it is quite futile to attempt a search unless one is accompanied by a skilled adviser. Rye's "Records and

Record Searching" has paved the way to documents in the public record office, the ancient handwriting of which—so puzzling to the beginner—is explained in Wright's "Court-Hand Restored." The medieval Latin, which troubles modern scholars, is interpreted by the glossary of Ewald's "Our Public Records." Marshall's "Genealogist's Guide" may be found in the larger libraries of this country. Thoyt's "How to Decipher and Study Old Documents," and Selby's "Jubilee Date Book," are useful aids. It is well to consult the foreign journals devoted to genealogy, such as "The Antiquary;" "The Genealogist;" "The Herald and Genealogist;" and "The Genealogical Magazine." A good general guide to English records is Mr. Phillimore's work and supplement, previously mentioned.

PRINCIPAL REPOSITORIES.

Next to the College of Arms, the great store-house of genealogical material is the Public Record Office, in Fetter Lane, London. Among the most helpful documents here for Americans, are those entitled "Licenses to Pass Beyond Seas." Other institutions scarcely less helpful are: The British Museum, in Bloomsbury, containing the Harleian Collection; The Guildhall Library; and the Middlesex Registry, which contains all the land deeds of Middlesex County since 1708. Outside of London are the Bodleian and the Queen's College Libraries of Oxford, and the libraries of Cambridge. Records of wills are at the "Principal Probate Registry," Somerset House, Strand, London. Here vital statistics have been deposited since 1837. Prior to that date they were kept chiefly on parish registers.

A chronological history of genealogical

documents in England would begin with that record of the land survey and property inventory, made in 1086 by order of William the Conqueror, for the purpose of determining ownership, that he might know when to relax the rigor of his tax levy, and barely fall short of destroying titles. Although the purpose of preparing that great work, known as Domesday (or Doomsday) Book, was far from any thought of genealogy, it is a help to the searcher. In the eight hundred years since it was prepared, manuscripts and volumes have increased in number, keeping pace with the progress of the English people. No history can convey an adequate conception of them. Nothing can do this but the actual experience of searching among them. Before one sets out, however, a general idea of what one may expect to find there, is worth having, and it should be said that information concerning those records, can-

not approach accuracy unless there be included in it some acquaintance with heraldry; for upon that institution, more than upon any other phase of European civilization the records of genealogy in the Old World depend. The genealogist who knows nothing of heraldry, though he may know all else, is scantily equipped for work there. Such inquirer would better employ a skilled searcher than to attempt the work himself.

The subject is growing in importance in this country. In truth, its influence upon our civilization is at present so significant that the education of an American may be considered, in a measure, defective, if it has not led him to some general knowledge of heraldry.

COATS OF ARMS.

In the days known as the Middle Ages, war was the chief occupation of kings, princes, barons, knights, and, indeed, of all who were able to wield the spear or the

battle-ax. The military spirit so completely dominated all classes of society that in the intervals between real engagements the warriors resorted to the tournament—the sham battle—to whet the appetite for combat. The feudal system of land tenure prevailed. Original ownership was in the king, or conqueror, who apportioned his territory among his staff of supporters, and they divided theirs into smaller holdings, to be again parceled out to vassals of lesser degree. Each land owner was able to muster an army of followers proportioned in numbers to the territory he could control. The soldier sought to raise himself in the social and political scale by giving proofs of his courage. His hope of winning favor from those in rank above him lay in the evidences he could produce of his skill and daring in the field. Constant struggle for personal power was the natural result of this social condition. Methods of recording military

achievements were in a rude state — the memory, aided by what might attract the eye, being all the individual had on which to found his prestige. The special exhibitions of prowess upon which he depended for his rights and privileges, were recorded by means of symbols, designed to be conspicuous and to be perpetual reminders of the illustrious career of their owner. These symbols were originally worn on the outer garment, outside the warrior's coat of mail, hence the term, *Coat of Arms*.

As ideas of art were developed, these insignia became decorative, and, as the aspirants for distinction increased in number, the symbols became more and more indicative of rank. Each follower in the royal train, from the highest to the lowest, as he became the head of a family, conferred upon that family the right to the use of his insignia. The coat of arms thus came to be a *family inheritance*. In course of time, these tokens grew

to be so numerous, and their designs so intricate, that it became necessary to devise some more convenient way of displaying them. The custom grew, therefore, of bearing the coat of arms, not on the outer garment, but on the warrior's shield. This is the origin of what has been almost a universal form—the shield, on which to display the principal armorial bearings.

No precise date can be given for the beginning of the use of coats of arms. There are some indications that they began to take definite form in the crusades. Customs grow gradually, and as slowly pass away. Opportunities of winning material emblems of war are fading away with the social conditions that made them possible; but inheritance by descent from those who won honorable distinction is vital to-day, and may be justly claimed. Those badges were proofs of the wearer's deeds of valor, and should be held by his descendants as family insignia.

They once determined the social status of their owners, but in modern days, particularly in democratic America, the test of nobility lies not so much in family pride of the past, as in individual worth now; yet we should know how far social evolution has brought us, and what were the "Days of old, when knights were bold, and barons held their sway." The evidences of family honor in past generations should, therefore, be cherished.

THE HERALD.

Among the nations, England had by far the most scientific and elaborate system of armorial bearings. Devices began to assume importance as coats of arms proper, somewhere near the middle of the 12th century. Closely associated with these customs, was an officer whose position made him conversant with the king's business. This was the herald, who went before the king

when his majesty visited the various parts of his realm. He bore the king's insignia, announced the royal presence, and, on all state occasions, was master of ceremonies. Although the care of the royal symbols, and the conduct of ceremonies connected therewith, constituted only a part of his duty, we have from this officer the term heraldry—a relic bequeathed to us from the age of chivalry.

HERALD'S COLLEGE.

By the latter half of the 15th century in England, so many different designs had grown up from small beginnings, and so much confusion of claims had arisen, that an equitable adjustment of rights concerning the use of insignia was necessary to insure its benefits to those entitled thereto. In consequence of these conditions, in the reign of Richard III., about three hundred years after heraldic designs had begun to be

considered as exclusively individual and hereditary in England, the government assumed control of the adjudication of rights concerning coats of arms; and, for the systematic conduct of its work, organized a corporation known as Herald's College, or College of Arms, 1483. The college building is in Queen Victoria Street, London, and contains more than three thousand manuscript volumes, besides an antiquarian library of priceless value. The officers or members of the college are constantly adding to the lineages there placed on record. It is their duty to trace coats of arms, confirm titles to honor, and examine the claims of English subjects to armorial rights, which last-named work, during the first two hundred years of the existence of the college was done about once in a generation—20 to 30 years—by *visiting* the different counties, and compelling those who claimed coats of arms, to prove their right to bear them. The records made

at these "visitations," were preserved at the college, and are of the highest authority. They have been printed and published by separate counties, as, "Yorkshire Visitations," Suffolk Visitations," etc.

The duties and customs of these officers seem to us Americans conventional—indeed, meaningless in their excessive formality; yet their very conservatism has been conducive to the accumulation of a vast fund of material for the genealogist. Although the visitations ceased in the latter part of the 17th century, the interest in heraldry and family insignia has not waned; but is to-day as zealously cultivated in England as ever.

Heraldry is inseparably connected with genealogical records in England, and it is, therefore, worth our while to become familiar with its elementary terms. The following table presents the leading facts concerning the College of Arms and its fourteen officers.

OFFICERS OF HERALD'S COLLEGE.

EARL MARSHAL— President of the College—nominates the other members. The office is hereditary in the family of Howard, Duke of Norfolk.

KINGS AT (OR OF) ARMS—

1st Order.

- Principal— *Garter* King at Arms—jurisdiction general.
- Principal— (Bath King at Arms — Gloucester — jurisdiction Wales — though next in rank after Garter, is not a member of the College.)
- Provincial— *Clarencieux* (or Sorroy) named from the first appointee, the Duke of Clarence—jurisdiction south of the Trent River.
- Provincial— *Norroy*—jurisdiction north of the Trent River.

HERALDS — Somerset, Chester, Windsor, Richmond, Lancaster, York. These are mere names, the jurisdiction of the herald being general.

PURSUIVANTS— 3d Order. Novitiates, or learners; promoted to heralds after a term of satisfactory service. They are followers, and general assistants.

- Rouge Croix,
- Blue Mantle,
- Rouge Dragon,
- Portcullis.

THE ALPHABET OF ENGLISH HERALDRY.

Heraldry, so far as it is recognized in America, takes its origin from that in use in England; and notwithstanding its wearisome details, one who would become proficient in the science must master the alphabet of its language. A knowledge of its forms and figures is by no means useless. It renders intelligible much in history and literature. Many of the designs employed in art are derived from heraldry. Its figures impart grace to architecture, and, for these considerations, if for no others, it should be studied.

Coats of arms are conferred for meritorious service, and granted to those who prove eligible descent. One entitled to bear arms is an *armiger*, the right being either original or inherited. The original right is *earned*. To be inherited, a coat of arms must have descended from an armiger *in the male line*

—that of the family name—subject to modification, from generation to generation, as hereafter explained. A woman's right is always inherited. On marriage her coat of arms is *marshaled* with that of her husband, by *charging on an inescutcheon* or *shield of pretense* if she is an heiress, otherwise by *impalement*. A coat of arms comprises the *escutcheon* and *accessories*. The escutcheon of a man is shield-shaped, and is called a shield ; that of a woman is lozenge-shaped. Combining the representations of two shields on one shield, in accordance with the rules of heraldry—as of a wife with that of her husband—is called *marshaling*. Describing armorial insignia in the language of heraldry, in such a manner as to be intelligible to one familiar with the terms, is called *blazoning*. For marshaling and blazoning there are definite and inviolable rules. The surface of an escutcheon, within its border,

is called the *field*, and the designs placed in the field are called *charges*. Considered in respect to that which they represent, armorial bearings are of several kinds, for example: corporations, governments—as of cities or states—public officials, etc., have coats of arms, generally used as seals.

In heraldry a clear distinction must be made between the rights of men and of women. The term *heiress* comes into frequent use, but not with its ordinary meaning. It has no reference to estates, or property of any kind, other than the coat of arms. As respects the transmission of the right to coat armour, there are two classes of women:

1. *Heiresses*—(*a*) A sole heiress is either an only child, or a survivor of all her brothers and sisters and their descendants.

   (*b*) A co-heiress is one of two or more daughters, there being neither sons nor

descendants of sons. Co-heiresses inherit equally. On the marriage of a sole heiress, or of a co-heiress, her coat of arms is *impaled* during the life of her father; that is, while she is heiress presumptive; but after the death of the father (no son having been born to him) her coat of arms is marshaled in that of her husband by an "Escutcheon of pretense" —"Inescutcheoned"—and is hereditary. It should be said that a woman does not inherit the crest, and only the queen, or a peeress, may inherit supporters.

2. *Non-heiresses*—A non-heiress is a daughter in a family containing one or more sons, or one or more descendants (of either sex) of sons. The coat of arms of a non-heiress is *impaled* at her marriage, and is not hereditary. In other words, the right to bear the coat of arms becomes extinct with the non-

heiress, being continued in the male line. The daughter becomes an heiress if she survive her brothers and their descendants.

An armiger transmits his rights to all his children. An heiress transmits her rights only through her husband, by the shield of pretense, as explained above. Sons inherit their father's coat of arms, not equally, but by the law of *cadency*, that is, each has, added to his inherited arms, a particular token, indicating his order among the sons, from the eldest to the youngest. On the death of the father, the eldest son assumes his father's insignia, dropping the mark of cadency (the label) to be taken up by his eldest son. The other sons of the father retain their insignia as inherited and modified, transmitting their rights as their father had done, subject to the law of cadency as before.

There are three ways in which a hereditary coat of arms may be modified: 1, by adding the shield of pretense, at marriage with an heiress; 2, by a process known as *quartering*, which is a change made in the marshaled coat armour of parents when it is transmitted to their children; 3, by changing the label of a coat of arms as inherited by sons. The change in the coat armour inherited in the line of the eldest sons is the slightest, as here, excepting the repetition of the label, the only changes are those necessitated by marriages with heiresses, as marriage with a non-heiress does not change the coat armour of a man. In contrast with this, it should be kept in mind that a woman having the right to a coat of arms, though she be an heiress, cannot transmit her right to her children unless their father be an armiger, as children inherit their father's coat of arms, and that of their mother only by virtue of their father's right. In short, the marriage

of an heiress with a non-armiger makes non-armigers of her children, as a man having no armorial rights of his own, cannot bear the coat armour of his wife.

To complete this introduction to the genealogical store-houses of the mother country, the following tables of heraldic terms are presented. In addition to a knowledge of these, one would need to become acquainted with the names applied to the various attitudes in which animals are depicted as charges. They are not difficult to learn, as but few of them are peculiar to heraldry. With these added to the information given in this chapter, one should be prepared to interpret ordinary blazonry. One must however make a thorough study of the science of heraldry and its history to be an apt interpreter, and to be guarded against spurious coats of arms.

ELEMENTARY TERMS IN HERALDRY.

Accessories to the Escutcheon—
- helmet
- mantling
- wreath
- crest
- motto
- scroll
- supporters
- coronet

Principal Kinds of Armorial Bearings,
- dominion
- pretension
- community
- assumption
- patronage
- succession
- alliance
- adoption
- concession
- paternal, or hereditary.

Positions on the Shield—
- Chief— (top)
  - dexter (right to the wearer)
  - middle
  - sinister (left to the wearer)
- Center
  - honor
  - fess
  - nombril
- Base— (bottom)
  - dexter (right to the wearer)
  - middle
  - sinister (left to the wearer)

Marks of Cadency, beginning with that of the eldest son, and continuing in their order, to that of the youngest.
1. label
2. crescent
3. mullet
4. martlet
5. amulet
6. fleur de lis
7. rose
8. cross-moline
9. octofoil

Tinctures—
- Metals—
  - gold (or)
  - silver (argent)
- Colors—
  - red (gules)
  - blue (azure)
  - black (sable)
  - green (vert)
  - purple (purpure)
- Furs—
  - ermine
  - vair (squirrel)
  - potent

Partition Lines,
- engrailed
- invected
- wavy
- nebule
- embattled
- indented
- dancette

CHARGES.

Classes.	Kinds.	Charges.	Diminutives.
Connected with the field as a part of it.	Honorable Ordinaries.	chief	fillet
		pale	pallet; indorse
		bend	bendlet or garter; cost or cotise; riband.
		bend sinister	scarpe; baton
		fess	bar; closet; barrulet
		chevron	chevronel; couple close
		quarter	canton
		cross—more than 100 variations in form.	
		Saltire, or St. Andrew's cross	
		pile.	
	Subordinaries.	gyron	
		fret	
		bordure	
		orle	
		tressure	besants, when of gold
		pall	plates, when of silver
		flanches	torteaux, when red
		lozenge	hurts, when blue
		fusil	golpes, when purple
		rustre	ogresses or pellets, when black
		mascle	
		roundels or roundlets	
Drawings or devices not a part of the field.	Common—Animals—	beasts	
		birds	
		fishes	
		reptiles	
		parts of human body.	
	—Plants		
	—Heavenly bodies		

ARMORIAL RIGHTS OF AMERICANS.

Few Americans are familiar with the heraldic rules of inheritance; consequently some of them claim for themselves personally, armorial achievements to which they are not entitled. One may keep as a memorial, the coat of arms of *any* ancestor; but the right to bear it belongs only to the *heraldic* descendants of such ancestor. To those interested in the question—"Who among Americans should be entitled to coats of arms?"—the following statement may not be uninteresting: Descent from an armiger is a matter of record; the right to bear a coat of arms is recognized and confirmed by the Herald's College. Descent implies, but does not confer, the right; hence an American may have inherited the honor; but there having been no official mode of recognizing the right to coats of arms in this country since July 4, 1776, he cannot be said to have armorial rights. But,

laying aside the question of technical *rights*, it may be said that in accordance with the law as applied to English subjects, an American who can trace descent *in the male line*, from an English armiger, or from an American armiger of colonial times, inherits the armorial bearings of such armiger, taking them as they may have been modified from generation to generation. He may also inherit the coat of arms of an ancestral heiress who married into a tributary line of descent, provided the husband of such heiress was an armiger; and that the right did not become extinct with an intervening non-heiress. One *may*, therefore, inherit armorial rights from armigers of other and remote family names; but in the course of descent the contingencies are so many that instances of this kind are rare.

When it is said that a coat of arms descends to a family, it should not be interpreted to mean that *all* of that particular

family name inherit the right to it, nor that *only* those of that name may bear it; but that the right is attached to the *individual* by virtue of his being one of the *family of heraldic descendants* of the original owner of that coat armour.

THE LAW IN BRIEF.

From this statement of the laws by which coats of arms are transmitted it may be seen that *the right to coat armour must descend in the male line or not at all;* for, if the ancestors in the male line were non-armigers, the ancestral heiresses, however numerous they may have been, could not transmit their rights beyond the marriages with the said non-armigers; but, to the right in the male line—a *sine qua non*—more or less *may* be added from other lines at successive marriages.

As the work of the Herald's College is confined to the interests of English subjects, it

could not engage in determining American ancestry. This should be the work of an American institution.

BOOKS FOR THE STUDY OF HERALDRY.

Definitions and explanations of the foregoing terms are to be found in works on heraldry, of which there are many. The larger books on the subject contain too many particulars, and, therefore, are confusing to the beginner. As in the study of every other intricate subject, so in heraldry, one should progress from the *general* to the *particular*, and a good general idea may be had from an elementary treatise, after which a study of the more comprehensive details will be profitable.

Following is a list of the more important works, classed not in any logical way; but simply as by *foreign* and by *American* authors. It must be said that American writers have prepared books best suited to beginners.

FOREIGN AUTHORS.

To the two Burkes, John (1787–1848) and John Bernard, 1815, (afterward Sir Bernard Burke, Ulster King at Arms, Ireland) father and son—students of heraldry in Great Britain and America owe more than to any other writers. The elder Burke began his genealogical studies in 1826, and the results of his researches and of those of the son, who continued the labors of his father, far surpass those of any other individual effort in the study of heraldry. Their books are to be found in every well equipped library in this country. The records they labored so long to collect are the basis of much that has been published by other authors. Their principal works are :

A Dictionary of Heraldry, (1 Vol).

A History of the Landed Gentry of Great Britain and Ireland, containing lineages of land-holders, (3 Vols.).

Peerage and Baronetage, in which are lineages and coats of arms of peers and baronets, (1 Vol., 45th edition).

Royal Families of England, Scotland, and Wales, (2 Vols.).

Royal Descents, (1 Vol.).

The General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales.

History of the Commoners, (4 vols.).

A Visitation of the Seats and Arms of Noblemen and Gentlemen of Great Britain, (3 Vols.).

History of the Extinct and Dormant Peerages, (2 Vols. of England, and 1 Vol. of Ireland and Scotland).

Extinct and Dormant Baronetcies of England, (1 Vol.).

Works by other foreign authors, bearing upon this subject, are: The Peerage and Baronetcy of the British Empire, by E. Lodge, (1 Vol.). The County Families of the United Kingdom, by E. Walford, (1

Vol). Collin's Peerage of England, (9 Vols.). Fairburn's Crests of the Families of Great Britain and Ireland, (2 Vols.). A Manual for the Genealogist, by R. Sims. Planche's Pursuivant of Arms. The Official Baronage of England, 1066 to 1885, (3 Vols.) by J. E. Doyle. The Book of Dignities, (1 Vol.) by J. Haydn. The Peerage, Baronetage and Knightage of the British Empire, 1881, by J. Foster. The Dormant and Extinct Baronage of England, by T. C. Banks, (3 Vols.). Historic Peerage of England, (1 Vol.) by Harris Nicolas. A Complete Body of Heraldry, (2 large Vols.) by Joseph Edmondson. Dictionary of Heraldry, by Wm. Berry, who was registering clerk in the College of Arms, (3 Vols.) containing plates and a descriptive list of coats of arms. The Grammar of Heraldry, and the Handbook of Heraldry, (each in 1 Vol.) by J. E. Cussans. Decorative Heraldry, by G. W. Eve, treats the subject in its application to art, (1 Vol.). A

Plea for the Antiquity of Heraldry, by W. S. Ellis, (1 Vol.) includes its study as found in mythology. A Synopsis of Heraldry, with special attention to the Art of Blazon, (1 Vol.) by C. N. Elvin. Practical Heraldry, by Charles Worthy, is a good epitome of English armory, and states clearly the laws of inheritance as applied in heraldry, (1Vol.). A Treatise on Ecclesiastical Heraldry, by John Woodward, limits the subject to heraldry as used by the Church of England. A Grammar of British Heraldry, by W. S. Sloane Evans, defines blazon and marshaling. Heraldry of Fish, by F. Moule, notices families on whose coats of arms fish were represented. A Guide to the Study of Heraldry, by J. A. Montague, is a good preparatory book. Heraldry in History, Poetry and Romance, by Ellen J. Millington, is interesting. The Curiosities of Heraldry, by M. A. Lower, shows its author to have been thoroughly acquainted with the subject.

AMERICAN AUTHORS.

Several Americans have proved their ability to epitomize, simplify, and arrange a mass of material in a small space. Heraldry in America, by Eugene Zieber, contains a history of American seals, definitions in heraldry, and a glossary. William H. Abbott is the author of Heraldry Illustrated; or, The Origin and History of Heraldry, an excellent hand-book.

The elements of Heraldry, by William H. Whitmore, in 1 vol., contains all an American, not a genealogist, would need to know. A succinct statement, also, is Prof. E. S. Holden's Primer of Heraldry for Americans. George R. Howell is the author of a short and interesting description of heraldry as exhibited in the capitol at Albany, N. Y. Mr. Mortimer D. de Lannoy has published A Bibliography of American Heraldry to 1896. H. A. Holmes issued a book entitled

Coats of Arms of the State of New York. A History of the United States Seal was written by Gailard Hunt. A Guide to Heraldry and Genealogy, by G. Gatfield, and Handbook of Heraldry, by F. W. Mapleson, are practical books. The application of heraldry to the design of our flag is shown by George H. Preble in his History of the Flag of the United States of America. The subject of Royal Arms Before the Revolution is treated by E. F. Slafter.

America Heraldica, giving coats of arms, crests, and mottos of prominent American families settled in this country prior to 1800, was published by E. de V. Vermont, in 2 vols.

A Bureau of Heraldry has been established at 17 Broadway, New York.

Mr. Eben Putnam, editor of *Putnam's Magazine*, has announced a book that appears simultaneously in England and in this country, under the title: "The Right

to Bear Arms." A concise and accurate statement on armorial rights is needed here, and much may be anticipated from such a work. Mr. Putnam is a genealogist of experience, having been a member of the English Research Committee for many years, and, associated with Mr. Waters, he has done difficult and valuable work.

JOURNALS DEVOTED TO HERALDRY.

"The Chronotype," 1873, a monthly—out of print. "The Curio," 1887 8, a monthly —out of print. "The Heraldic Journal," Recording the Armorial Bearings and Genealogies of American Families, Boston; it began in January, 1865, and continued four years. There is soon to be published "The Magazine of American Heraldry," a quarterly, New York.

AN AMERICAN COLLEGE OF HERALDRY.

There is no institution in America corresponding to the Herald's College in England. "The American College of Heraldry" was organized in New York City in January, 1873, with headquarters at 67 University Place. It received the endorsement of prominent citizens of different states; but it met with little encouragement from the general public. The Chronotype aimed to extend the work and influence of the college, but after a year and a half it succumbed to the indifference of those in whose interests the organization was formed.

The objects to be attained by an American College of Heraldry are clear and important. We need a national repository for genealogical information. The few families in this country whose lineages should entitle them to coats of arms would be an all-sufficient nucleus for such an institution. An oppor-

tunity should be given to every citizen of the United States to prove descent from an armiger—such proof to be furnished in accordance with the rules of heraldry in force in the foreign country of which such armiger was a citizen.

There are Americans who merit recognition for distinguished public service. There have been crises in the affairs of men in which a *moral* courage was exhibited that was far nobler than the physical daring of the middle ages. Insignia of acknowledgment should be conferred by a college of arms upon those who sacrifice self for the public good. Such tokens are epitomized biography, and should pass to the descendants of the grantees in such manner as the American college might determine.

As English is our national language, it would be our preference to adopt as a foundation, the method by which armorial achievements are transmitted in England.

Some modifications would doubtless prove necessary; but, as the most elaborate and scientific system in the world, the law of English heraldry would, in the main, prevail. The details involved in the conduct of such an institution need not be discussed here; nor is it necessary to point out abuses to which the granting of armorial honors would, without doubt, be subjected. There need be no fear that difficulties would prove insurmountable. The whole subject of the incorporation and management of an institution for conferring coats of arms should appeal to the hereditary societies as affording an opportunity for public spirited and enduring work. Public sentiment is riper to-day for the organization of an American college of heraldry than it has ever been before, and time will bring about a still more general appreciation of our needs in this respect.

POSTSCRIPT.

Notwithstanding its imperfections—and, despite vigilance, there are defects which have eluded correction—the author ventures the hope that this handbook of hints on what genealogy really means, may help some one in right thinking on the subject, and, in a measure simplify the work of tracing and recording individual and family descent and relationship.

"For thou must know, Sancho, that there are two kinds of lineages in the world. Some there are who derive their pedigree from princes and monarchs, whom time has gradually reduced until they have ended in a point like a pyramid: others have had a low origin, and have risen by degrees, until they have become great lords. So that the difference is that some have been what now they are not, and others are now what they were not before; and who knows but I may be one of the former, and that, upon examination, my origin may be found to have been great and glorious."—*Don Quixote, by Cervantes*, 1603.

INDEX OF CONTENTS.

ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS.

Page 39, in the foot note, for "aboriginies," read *aborigines.*

Page 117, in 7th line from the top, after "Frank," insert : *or a small land-holder.*

Page 146, in 5th line from the top, for "children," read *husbands.*

Page 241, in 9th line from the top, before "literature" insert : *other*

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